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C. 11

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

INCREASE AND DECREASE

OF

DIFFERENT DISEASES,

AND PARTICULARLY OF THE PLAGUE.

By WILLIAM HEBERDEN, Jun. M.D. F.R.S.

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THE following Remarks were put together with the intention of ſubjoining them to a new edition of the Bills of Mortality. In ſubmitting them ſeparately to the Public, the Author is influenced by no vanity, or ſelf-conceit, no forwardneſs to broach new opinions, nor any wiſh to ſupport a favourite ſyſtem. If he has ſtated any thing as fact, he has at leaſt endeavoured to do it fairly; or if he has hazarded any concluſions, he has at the ſame time laid open the ſources from which they were drawn. His object is to direct the attention of the Medical world to a ſubject which has hitherto been very much neglected; and which appears to him capable of being employed to valuable purpoſes.

PREFACE.

PEOPLE have fallen into two oppoſite errors concerning the Bills of Mortality. Some have conſidered their authority as too vague to be made the foundation of any certain concluſions; and others have built upon this foundation, without ſufficiently conſidering it's real defects. Both parties are equally in the wrong.

THE agreement of the Bills with each other, does alone carry with it a ſtrong proof, that the numbers under the ſeveral articles are by no means ſet down at random; but muſt be taken from the uniform operation of ſome permanent cauſe. While the gradual changes they exhibit in particular diſeaſes, correſpond to the alterations which in time are known to take place in the channels through which the great ſtream of mortality is conſtantly flowing.

THAT there are, however, many and very great imperfections in the Bills of Mortality, cannot be doubted. For, firſt, the births include only thoſe who are baptized according to the rites and uſage of the Church of England. By which means

means all Jews, Quakers, Papiſts, and the very numerous body of Diſſenters, are omitted. And though ſome among the poorer ſort both of Papiſts, and Diſſenters, who live at a diſtance from their reſpective burial-grounds, and cannot bear the expence of being carried thither, are buried according to the rites of the Eſtabliſhed Church, and conſequently have a place in the regiſter; yet the numbers ſo accounted for, muſt be very few compared with the deficiencies.

Secondly: Of thoſe who are of the Church of England, a very large proportion are either buried in the country, or in burial grounds adjacent to London, but without the Bills. The burials alſo in St. Paul's Cathedral, in Weſtminſter Abbey, the Temple, the Rolls, Lincoln's Inn, St. Peter's in the Tower, the Charterhouſe, the ſeveral Hoſpitals of the metropolis, and other places which are not parochial cemeteries, are for that reaſon omitted. Beſides which, the great pariſhes of Marybone, and Pancras, have never yet had a place in the Bills of Mortality. In the former of theſe alone, the burials, on an average of five years, from 1795 to 1799 inclusive, amounted annually to 1,550 *(a)*.

Thirdly: Many abortives and ſtill-born, making together above 700 in the year, are noticed in the deaths, but not in the births.

Fourthly,

(a) Mr. Pennant, in his Account of London, ſays, it is the opinion of Mr. Richardſon, who has ſerved the pariſh offices, that there are nearly as many buried from London, at different burial grounds, without, as within the limits of the Bills of Mortality.

FOURTHLY: The miſtakes and miſrepreſentations, to which the particular diſeaſes are liable, are too obvious to be inſiſted upon. Yet it deſerves to be repeated, that even in theſe ſmaller diviſions of the ſubject, the correſpondence of one year, and of one week, with another, is ſuch, as muſt convince every attentive obſerver, that a conſiderable degree of credit is due to their report.

ERRATUM:

Page 95. Note *(p) for* page 66, *read* page 31.

TABLE I.

OF THE ANNUAL CHRISTENINGS AND BURIALS IN LONDON for each Year of the Eighteenth Century; Together with the Proportion out of every Thouſand, who have died by Bowel Complaints, Small Pox, Palſy, Meaſles, or Childbirth.—*From the Bills of Mortality.*

TABLE I.

Years - -	1701	1702	1703	1704	1705	1706	1707	1708	1709	1710	Average
CHRISTENED	15616	15687	15448	15895	16145	15369	16066	15862	15220	14928	15623
BURIED - -	20471	19481	20720	22684	22097	19847	21600	21291	21800	24620	21461
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	60.8	67	53	56	52.6	50.4	45.9	41.1	42.4	32.9	50.2
Small Pox -	53.1	15.9	43.3	66.1	49.7	36	49.9	79.2	46.6	126.7	56.6
Apoplexy - Palfy - - Suddenly -	8	6.9	7.6	6.4	7.1	7.8	7.2	8	7.4	6.6	7.3
Meafles - -	0.2	1.4	2.4	0.5	14.5	18	1.7	5.9	4	7.3	5.5
Childbed - Miſcarriage	10.9	11.4	10.5	11.7	13	11.9	11.9	11.5	9.8	8.8	11.1

Years - -	1711	1712	1713	1714	1715	1716	1717	1718	1719	1720	Average
CHRISTENED	14706	15660	15927	17495	17234	17421	18475	18307	18413	17479	17111
BURIED - -	19833	21198	21057	26569	22232	24436	23446	26523	28347	25454	23909
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	36.7	32.5	33.8	30.2	32.3	33.9	35.8	39.1	39.5	38.3	35.2
Small Pox -	45.7	92.5	76.8	106	48	99.4	94.4	71	114.1	56.7	80.4
Apoplexy - Palfy - - Suddenly -	9	7.4	9.3	7.5	8.4	7.5	10.3	8.5	8.5	9.9	8.6
Meafles - -	4.8	3.6	2.9	5.2	1.3	11	1.5	18.5	8.5	8.3	6.5
Childbed - Miſcarriage	9.8	9.8	8.4	11.6	12.5	9.4	10.3	9.9	10.3	10.2	10.2

TABLE I.—*continued.*

Years - -	1721	1722	1723	1724	1725	1726	1727	1728	1729	1730	Average
CHRISTENED	18370	18339	19203	19370	18859	18808	18252	16652	17060	17118	18203
BURIED - -	26142	25750	29197	25952	25523	29647	28418	27810	29722	26761	27492
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	32.6	32.2	36.3	34.1	26.4	25.4	24.3	20.2	19.3	18.5	26.9
Small Pox -	91.3	84.3	112.8	47.2	125	53	83.7	75.2	95.9	71.6	84
Apoplexy - Palfy - - Suddenly -	9.6	8.6	8.2	9.6	8.7	8	8	7.2	7.4	10	8.5
Meafles - -	9.1	4.4	7.9	4.5	2.7	8.6	2.5	3	1.3	11.6	5.6
Childbed - Miſcarriage	11.5	11.4	10	9.5	10.4	8.3	7.9	7.7	8.4	10	9.5

Years - -	1731	1732	1733	1734	1735	1736	1737	1738	1739	1740	Average
CHRISTENED	17830	17788	17465	17630	16873	16491	16760	16060	16181	15231	16830
BURIED - -	25262	23358	29233	26062	23538	27581	27823	25825	25432	30811	26492
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	15.7	15.9	12.2	14.9	14.7	14.3	13	11.9	11.7	10.3	13.4
Small Pox -	105.6	51.3	47.2	103.4	67.8	109.6	74.4	61.1	66.5	85.2	77.1
Apoplexy - Palfy - - Suddenly -	11	11.4	9.0	8.4	10	9.1	9.9	8.9	9	8.8	9.5
Meafles - -	4.1	1.3	20.8	0.7	0.4	6.1	4.5	8.3	12.8	1.4	7.0
Childbed - Miſcarriage	10.3	9 5	10.3	10.5	8.3	7.4	10.1	10	10.3	7.5	9.4

TABLE I.—*continued.*

Years - -	1741	1742	1743	1744	1745	1746	1747	1748	1749	1750	Average
CHRISTENED	14957	13751	15050	14261	14078	14577	14942	14153	14260	14548	14458
BURIED - -	32169	27483	25200	20606	21296	28157	25494	23869	25516	23727	25352
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	9.6	5.7	6.6	4.7	8.7	6.4	7.6	7	7.5	7.4	7.1
Small Pox -	61.7	52.1	81.1	79.2	57.4	115.5	54.3	74.6	102.9	51.8	72
Apoplexy - Palsy - - Suddenly -	8.6	10.5	11	12.4	12	11.2	9.6	12.6	12.7	14	11.4
Measles - -	1.3	35.8	0.7	0.2	0.6	8.9	3.1	0.4	4.1	13.5	6.8
Childbed - Miscarriage	8.1	7.5	7.1	9	9.4	6.8	8.3	8.5	7.3	9.7	8.1

Years - -	1751	1752	1753	1754	1755	1756	1757	1758	1759	1760	Average
CHRISTENED	14691	15308	15444	14947	15209	14830	14053	14209	14253	14951	14789
BURIED - -	21028	20485	19276	22696	21917	20872	21313	17576	19604	19830	20460
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	6.6	6.6	7.3	6	4.3	4	3.5	3.5	4.3	2.7	4.8
Small Pox -	47.5	173.4	40.7	104.3	90.4	77.3	154.7	72.7	132.4	104.5	102.7
Apoplexy - Palsy - - Suddenly -	13.5	12.6	15.6	13.6	12	15	12.2	14.7	11.7	14.4	13.5
Measles - -	1	5.4	13.3	0.5	19.2	7.5	1.1	39.7	16.6	8.8	11.5
Childbed - Miscarriage	8.4	7.9	9.1	9.6	9.5	8.6	8.4	10.6	10.3	12	9.4

TABLE I.—*continued.*

Years - -	1761	1762	1763	1764	1765	1766	1767	1768	1769	1770	Average
CHRISTENED	16000	15351	15133	16801	16374	16257	15980	16042	16714	17109	16176
BURIED - -	21063	26326	26143	23202	23230	23911	22612	23639	21847	22434	23441
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	4	7·9	3·4	3·4	2.8	2.8	3·2	4·1	3	3·5	3.8
Small Pox -	72.6	105.2	137.7	103.4	108.6	97.2	96.8	128.3	89.4	88.6	102.7
Apoplexy - Palsy - - Suddenly -	15.7	13.6	11.4	12.6	11.4	12.9	14	9.7	12	13	12.6
Measles - -	19	4.6	23.4	2.8	2 3	20	3·5	17·3	4	14·5	11.1
Childed - Miscarriage	14	10.6	9.9	10.2	10.8	8.5	7.8	9	8.6	12.2	11.1

Years - -	1771	1772	1773	1774	1775	1776	1777	1778	1779	1780	Average
CHRISTENED	17072	17916	16805	16998	17629	17280	18300	17300	16769	16634	17170
BURIED - -	21780	26053	21656	20884	20514	19048	23334	20399	20420	20517	21460
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.8	4	2.9	2.1	2.9	4.2	4·5	3.2
Small Pox -	76.5	153.5	48.1	119.1	130.2	90.9	110.1	70.2	122.2	42.5	96.3
Apoplexy - Palsy - - Suddenly -	13.4	12.4	13.1	13.5	13.6	16.8	14.1	14.8	12.6	16.8	14.1
Measles - -	5·3	8.1	9.2	5.8	13.8	8	6.2	19.1	4.8	13.2	9,3
Childbed - Miscarriage	8.2	7·5	9	9,9	9·3	10.2	9.6	8.6	10.4	9·3	9.2

TABLE I.—*continued.*

Years - -	1781	1782	1783	1784	1785	1786	1787	1788	1789	1790	Average
CHRISTENED	17026	17101	17091	17179	17919	18119	17508	19559	18163	18980	17862
BURIED - -	20709	17918	19029	17828	18919	20454	19349	19697	20749	18038	19269
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	4.5	2.4	3.4	1	1.6	1.5	0.7	1.5	1.3	0.6	1.8
Small Pox -	169.5	35.5	81.6	97.7	105.3	60.5	126	55.8	101.1	89.8	92.2
Apoplexy - Palſy - - Suddenly -	13.4	19.5	15.4	15.2	16.5	15	12.8	14.8	14.4	15.5	15.2
Meaſles - -	9.7	9.4	9.7	1.6	1	39.5	4.6	2.8	26	6.6	11
Childbed - Miſcarriage	10.1	7.7	7.6	7.6	8.8	10	11.3	10	8.5	8.3	9

Years - -	1791	1792	1793	1794	1795	1796	1797	1798	1799	1800	Average
CHRISTENED	18496	19348	19108	18689	18361	18826	18645	17927	18970	19176	18754
BURIED - -	18760	20213	21749	19241	21179	19288	17014	18155	18134	23068	19680
Flux - - Colic - - Gripes - -	0.8	0.5	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.4	0.7	1	0.9
Small Pox -	94.5	78.4	109.7	100.7	49.5	183.9	30.7	128.7	61.3	104.7	94.2
Apoplexy - Palſy - - Suddenly -	15	15	16.2	14.7	14.2	15.4	18.4	17.1	19.5	16.3	16.2
Meaſles - -	6.6	22.5	11.4	9	15.6	15.9	13	10.8	12.3	17.2	13.4
Childbed - Miſcarriage	8.5	10	8.7	9.5	7	10.5	12.2	8	7.4	7.3	8.9

TABLE II.

OF Ten different Articles extracted from the LONDON WEEKLY BILLS OF MORTALITY, ſhewing their Variations every Week for Ten Years.

TABLE II.

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1763.	Whole Number buried.	Under two years.	Above sixty years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumptions.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
4 Jan. - -	641	197	93	11	2	113	73	9	0	106
11 Jan. - -	565	162	84	6	3	104	55	5	0	108
18 Jan. - -	583	146	86	11	8	118	61	1	0	107
25 Jan. - -	621	149	105	5	13	103	62	3	2	113
1 Feb. - -	687	216	128	14	10	129	59	2	3	125
8 Feb. - -	612	152	120	5	8	106	76	4	1	84
15 Feb. - -	520	146	86	4	6	93	43	2	3	96
22 Feb. - -	551	158	86	6	5	108	69	3	1	79
1 Mar. - -	469	126	65	6	5	108	54	1	2	67
8 Mar. - -	513	153	86	3	7	103	64	0	0	65
15 Mar. - -	404	98	76	3	0	93	29	1	2	51
22 Mar. - -	552	157	87	3	3	114	75	2	1	73
29 Mar. - -	443	135	59	4	3	106	53	3	2	52
5 Apr. - -	448	131	79	6	6	85	62	1	2	57
12 Apr. - -	484	147	78	5	4	108	63	0	3	57
19 Apr. - -	477	141	68	6	7	83	49	0	8	61
26 Apr. - -	505	140	76	5	6	105	83	0	7	54
3 May - -	461	135	70	3	9	101	36	0	7	61
10 May - -	567	159	85	9	12	105	68	0	12	77
17 May - -	484	155	60	6	3	81	70	0	15	52
24 May - -	452	152	70	5	2	88	54	2	14	49
31 May - -	537	179	72	7	10	118	43	1	15	67
7 June - -	524	174	70	7	7	87	69	1	23	64
14 June - -	537	167	75	6	2	90	64	0	31	62
21 June - -	466	142	58	6	3	83	72	0	36	57
28 June - -	552	159	74	2	4	104	71	1	34	83

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1763.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Loosenefs.	Measles.	Small Pox.
5 July - -	533	161	60	5	11	96	82	0	34	69
12 July - -	517	163	64	11	7	76	60	1	36	80
19 July - -	506	175	56	4	2	90	66	3	51	78
26 July - -	486	192	46	3	5	78	62	3	20	87
2 Aug. - -	436	157	43	6	2	62	55	1	33	86
9 Aug. - -	460	192	47	5	2	65	62	3	26	69
16 Aug. - -	462	160	46	6	7	74	63	3	27	73
23 Aug. - -	548	146	72	1	4	105	75	1	15	66
30 Aug. - -	418	163	24	3	2	65	57	2	21	47
6 Sept. - -	478	174	69	5	1	74	67	2	16	59
13 Sept. - -	477	162	49	2	4	80	73	2	18	46
20 Sept. - -	516	185	60	6	4	90	73	6	14	51
27 Sept. - -	565	212	55	3	6	105	84	2	20	69
4 Oct. - -	485	174	68	6	4	83	64	5	13	50
11 Oct. - -	404	138	55	3	0	77	55	1	7	46
18 Oct. - -	473	153	69	6	2	97	77	4	4	47
25 Oct. - -	498	168	80	15	2	81	75	1	5	65
1 Nov. - -	384	122	55	3	6	79	55	2	4	45
8 Nov. - -	478	136	67	9	4	92	75	2	4	56
15 Nov. - -	362	112	49	3	6	72	67	2	7	46
22 Nov. - -	498	167	70	8	4	91	77	1	6	62
29 Nov. - -	511	172	78	8	4	91	77	1	6	57
6 Dec. - -	564	169	87	3	2	126	90	2	5	54
13 Dec. - -	480	163	58	9	4	110	85	1	1	38
20 Dec. - -	484	160	66	6	2	93	83	0	3	53
27 Dec. - -	380	125	41	2	5	77	59	1	4	37

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1764.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above fixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palfy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miſcarriage.	Conſumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looſeneſs.	Meaſles.	Small Pox.
3 Jan. - -	585	207	76	8	7	116	84	4	4	44
10 Jan. - -	462	153	71	6	8	89	63	2	3	44
17 Jan. - -	499	176	69	7	4	97	78	2	0	37
24 Jan. - -	505	160	90	7	7	105	81	2	2	41
31 Jan. - -	466	142	62	4	7	95	86	2	1	26
7 Feb. - -	483	149	68	4	4	110	63	1	2	31
14 Feb. - -	504	162	84	5	8	103	79	3	4	28
21 Feb. - -	491	159	86	5	6	99	82	2	0	33
28 Feb. - -	447	130	70	10	6	86	70	3	2	27
6 Mar. - -	466	131	84	6	3	102	74	1	2	37
13 Mar. - -	519	158	99	3	2	94	80	1	1	41
20 Mar. - -	481	137	90	5	4	91	88	3	1	27
27 Mar. - -	463	147	83	6	4	99	72	2	1	29
3 Apr. - -	455	131	82	4	4	103	84	0	2	24
10 Apr. - -	402	109	59	6	1	93	76	0	2	22
17 Apr. - -	433	143	57	9	10	100	63	0	1	29
24 Apr. - -	405	129	60	3	2	89	62	1	0	33
1 May - -	405	131	57	11	4	76	62	3	0	37
8 May - -	435	130	61	7	4	92	56	0	0	47
15 May - -	420	129	67	7	5	87	69	0	4	30
22 May - -	381	126	51	3	1	76	52	1	0	32
29 May - -	409	120	51	3	2	80	69	5	2	39
5 June - -	421	138	47	1	5	93	58	3	1	39
12 June - -	415	132	71	6	5	83	72	1	2	44
19 June - -	407	135	49	6	6	79	62	5	1	55
26 June - -	398	126	52	4	3	60	70	2	1	44

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1764.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Loosenes.	Measles.	Small Pox.
3 July - -	402	119	51	2	2	76	70	2	2	55
10 July - -	409	124	45	3	7	82	60	2	2	63
17 July - -	367	135	50	6	3	68	61	0	0	42
24 July - -	404	172	40	5	6	77	68	2	0	54
31 July - -	328	136	52	6	8	63	57	2	1	56
7 Aug. - -	395	153	41	7	3	68	60	3	0	48
14 Aug. - -	338	122	49	1	2	45	69	1	2	42
21 Aug. - -	388	151	48	7	3	55	73	1	0	44
28 Aug. - -	475	180	40	4	3	78	95	0	0	62
4 Sept. - -	457	189	49	7	5	65	86	2	0	56
11 Sept. - -	484	190	65	4	5	76	82	2	1	52
18 Sept. - -	486	215	56	7	1	86	80	3	2	63
25 Sept. - -	468	191	59	2	5	80	86	4	1	36
2 Oct. - -	477	171	67	5	4	85	88	2	0	52
9 Oct. - -	390	154	53	1	1	63	63	2	0	50
16 Oct. - -	466	163	50	2	6	83	81	3	2	57
23 Oct. - -	451	156	51	6	2	87	89	1	0	64
30 Oct. - -	440	135	57	9	4	89	63	2	2	69
6 Nov. - -	405	127	50	6	5	84	66	1	2	58
13 Nov. - -	538	153	80	14	10	88	106	0	1	88
20 Nov. - -	394	134	43	6	8	73	80	1	0	46
27 Nov. - -	523	145	74	8	7	106	98	0	1	66
4 Dec. - -	503	136	77	8	1	95	93	1	0	69
11 Dec. - -	531	147	76	9	5	95	92	0	0	83
18 Dec. - -	474	147	82	8	2	73	93	1	5	59
25 Dec. - -	374	91	56	4	2	71	62	0	0	48

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1765.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
1 Jan. - -	511	150	74	10	7	91	92	3	0	72
8 Jan. - -	517	151	89	8	3	109	83	0	0	60
15 Jan. - -	485	157	72	5	5	96	76	2	3	48
22 Jan. - -	482	142	73	6	1	91	89	0	0	70
29 Jan. - -	423	113	65	3	1	75	71	1	0	55
5 Feb. - -	435	147	71	3	3	85	63	0	1	50
12 Feb. - -	527	159	93	5	6	100	92	0	2	43
19 Feb. - -	532	174	91	8	6	84	98	1	0	51
26 Feb. - -	655	196	103	7	9	114	106	1	5	58
5 Mar. - -	531	178	96	8	3	120	94	1	0	48
12 Mar. - -	496	202	78	5	5	118	81	0	0	44
19 Mar. - -	558	157	96	2	8	100	88	0	1	59
26 Mar. - -	534	158	86	12	7	107	96	1	0	39
2 Apr. - -	432	112	78	7	9	81	62	0	1	42
9 Apr. - -	373	126	51	3	7	67	53	1	1	27
16 Apr. - -	440	89	65	5	1	92	83	2	0	29
23 Apr. - -	409	129	64	3	6	82	76	0	1	33
30 Apr. - -	421	132	75	8	5	69	83	0	0	34
7 May - -	369	127	55	0	3	85	71	1	1	18
14 May - -	322	118	35	3	5	56	55	1	0	24
21 May - -	409	157	62	3	4	74	61	0	2	31
28 May - -	398	118	57	3	3	80	82	0	1	25
4 June - -	322	107	46	1	3	69	56	1	1	26
11 June - -	412	139	59	11	3	86	70	0	1	24
18 June - -	357	130	51	4	5	63	59	0	0	39
25 June - -	417	141	68	4	5	85	72	1	0	38

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1765.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
2 July - -	322	125	48	5	6	52	48	0	2	40
9 July - -	390	125	50	7	5	88	62	1	0	31
16 July - -	315	126	38	3	2	62	48	1	2	35
23 July - -	377	134	56	5	5	67	56	2	0	44
30 July - -	352	144	32	4	6	57	62	1	3	47
6 Aug. - -	357	139	43	4	1	54	67	1	3	43
13 Aug. - -	364	154	54	5	8	44	80	5	1	50
20 Aug. - -	381	162	43	7	1	42	75	2	1	51
27 Aug. - -	487	198	68	7	10	65	87	3	1	67
3 Sept. - -	451	179	50	3	10	63	72	1	0	70
10 Sept. - -	479	232	45	8	6	68	58	4	0	68
17 Sept. - -	478	215	60	3	2	84	66	2	0	52
24 Sept. - -	464	232	52	5	4	69	63	3	2	47
1 Oct. - -	498	216	57	7	9	82	80	4	2	47
8 Oct. - -	507	230	53	2	5	75	64	5	1	70
15 Oct. - -	480	202	43	1	6	86	78	4	1	72
22 Oct. - -	469	184	61	2	3	76	78	2	2	56
29 Oct. - -	428	139	55	4	4	96	74	0	0	65
5 Nov. - -	450	152	69	10	3	74	72	0	2	46
12 Nov. - -	478	157	77	5	3	81	86	2	1	47
19 Nov. - -	511	148	90	9	6	91	82	1	1	66
26 Nov. - -	500	188	69	6	2	88	80	2	0	59
3 Dec. - -	513	174	71	9	9	103	70	0	0	57
10 Dec. - -	564	171	88	5	7	106	85	0	3	73
17 Dec. - -	516	154	75	7	2	102	74	0	1	68
24 Dec. - -	500	148	87	12	3	101	77	1	1	54
31 Dec. - -	577	169	115	9	11	112	77	2	2	50

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1766.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
7 Jan, - -	546	186	111	8	7	109	79	1	3	64
14 Jan. - -	520	184	79	7	5	102	72	2	1	50
21 Jan. - -	560	158	97	12	5	105	75	1	0	60
28 Jan. - -	598	166	127	7	4	118	79	2	1	67
4 Feb. - -	530	136	103	9	2	102	90	0	1	58
11 Feb. - -	560	188	88	10	7	110	78	1	1	58
18 Feb. - -	522	178	93	9	7	103	65	1	3	51
25 Feb. - -	514	151	93	7	1	83	93	1	4	56
4 Mar. - -	471	156	75	5	3	101	61	1	8	45
11 Mar. - -	473	139	81	3	3	112	68	1	7	49
18 Mar. - -	495	167	80	6	4	95	80	1	5	54
25 Mar. - -	510	159	66	3	5	103	82	0	11	62
1 Apr. - -	485	148	71	5	8	94	63	0	12	54
8 Apr. - -	589	176	103	6	9	126	84	0	11	67
15 Apr. - -	491	187	57	6	4	90	85	1	13	59
22 Apr. - -	480	158	74	8	4	88	60	2	14	69
29 Apr. - -	431	149	66	8	1	77	63	1	9	56
6 May - -	439	127	68	4	3	95	73	0	4	51
13 May - -	401	135	55	2	1	75	74	1	15	44
20 May - -	528	180	78	7	5	106	95	4	16	51
27 May - -	428	136	62	6	6	83	69	0	16	38
3 June - -	453	138	69	5	2	83	64	1	24	53
10 June - -	449	142	59	3	5	83	79	0	25	56
17 June - -	393	155	40	1	5	78	47	0	24	39
24 June - -	368	136	47	3	6	69	49	2	15	45
1 July - -	433	136	63	13	7	84	64	0	13	53

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1766.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
8 July - -	391	149	52	7	2	65	64	0	24	25
15 July - -	374	121	51	5	0	67	61	0	29	33
22 July - -	381	126	62	6	3	76	52	1	14	37
29 July - -	340	124	38	8	1	69	39	1	13	38
5 Aug. - -	404	179	44	6	4	72	56	0	18	38
12 Aug. - -	385	139	49	4	6	76	54	3	15	34
19 Aug. - -	325	111	44	4	2	70	40	1	11	27
26 Aug. - -	337	132	47	3	4	62	59	0	5	23
2 Sept. - -	351	138	45	5	1	63	67	1	8	36
9 Sept. - -	363	150	38	6	5	64	61	1	9	28
16 Sept. - -	444	165	59	9	2	75	78	2	7	26
23 Sept. - -	393	148	52	6	4	77	54	3	11	34
30 Sept. - -	365	140	41	4	0	68	72	3	3	19
7 Oct. - -	486	217	71	2	9	98	65	1	2	43
14 Oct. - -	462	166	66	4	6	100	78	2	6	24
21 Oct. - -	436	172	55	2	6	94	63	5	6	22
28 Oct. - -	374	144	51	5	1	79	60	2	7	27
4 Nov. - -	403	142	64	7	4	78	69	1	1	24
11 Nov. - -	399	158	66	6	4	75	68	1	9	26
18 Nov. - -	483	135	58	2	2	90	91	3	4	48
25 Nov. - -	459	148	63	3	4	92	84	1	4	36
2 Dec. - -	416	131	64	6	11	85	75	4	4	27
9 Dec. - -	427	134	69	7	3	94	76	0	6	31
16 Dec. - -	454	124	66	1	5	107	76	1	6	35
23 Dec. - -	386	120	55	5	8	88	58	1	3	35
30 Dec. - -	445	114	76	4	2	106	72	1	5	32

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1767.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
6 Jan. - -	391	113	69	6	7	93	51	0	4	43
13 Jan. - -	532	144	92	11	5	120	87	0	10	38
20 Jan. - -	519	129	100	16	6	126	63	2	1	42
27 Jan. - -	503	136	94	12	4	107	81	1	1	33
3 Feb. - -	468	127	84	8	2	107	76	2	0	31
10 Feb. - -	446	108	72	6	3	96	79	0	2	25
17 Feb. - -	439	137	80	5	3	101	80	1	0	18
24 Feb. - -	413	111	67	7	3	102	61	0	0	24
3 Mar. - -	404	134	69	7	4	96	59	1	1	22
10 Mar. - -	416	144	67	9	3	86	62	0	0	21
17 Mar. - -	457	140	73	9	5	90	86	0	0	20
24 Mar. - -	439	148	64	10	5	105	65	0	0	27
31 Mar. - -	432	162	71	5	3	86	59	1	1	24
7 Apr. - -	472	177	70	2	8	88	79	1	1	25
14 Apr. - -	392	126	53	7	3	75	72	2	3	16
21 Apr. - -	419	137	60	3	4	90	70	1	1	35
28 Apr. - -	519	205	58	10	6	109	73	5	2	28
5 May - -	462	167	79	8	2	90	69	1	1	29
12 May - -	441	158	65	4	1	78	61	0	3	49
19 May - -	448	153	70	6	3	96	69	1	3	39
26 May - -	422	142	75	2	3	87	75	0	2	36
2 June - -	385	139	56	7	2	80	62	0	0	39
9 June - -	408	142	66	3	5	84	61	0	3	41
16 June - -	423	146	57	3	4	68	72	0	2	38
23 June - -	431	146	56	6	1	87	57	1	1	48
30 June - -	457	149	78	7	4	85	70	2	2	51

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1767.	Whole Number buried.	Under two years.	Above sixty years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Loosenefs.	Measles.	Small Pox.
7 July - -	476	129	81	5	4	86	95	1	1	49
14 July - -	358	128	37	4	3	61	71	3	0	29
21 July - -	398	131	54	8	3	81	71	1	0	46
28 July - -	399	120	73	3	5	57	83	1	1	42
4 Aug. - -	339	102	40	7	3	64	53	4	1	47
11 Aug. - -	407	136	59	8	4	77	71	1	1	51
18 Aug. - -	350	108	43	3	2	59	70	1	1	58
25 Aug. - -	371	160	51	2	0	52	68	3	0	44
1 Sept. - -	352	140	43	5	0	60	40	3	1	43
8 Sept. - -	384	138	37	6	4	60	67	4	0	54
15 Sept. - -	338	144	36	4	2	48	56	2	1	47
22 Sept. - -	358	145	56	5	2	57	52	1	0	55
29 Sept. - -	388	165	42	3	1	62	70	4	1	42
6 Oct. - -	444	184	43	4	1	99	62	9	0	54
13 Oct. - -	469	177	57	4	3	75	78	2	4	44
20 Oct. - -	437	196	57	10	2	69	64	6	2	54
27 Oct. - -	396	134	49	3	4	61	73	0	1	64
3 Nov. - -	564	229	69	2	4	96	91	1	5	64
10 Nov. - -	450	176	55	7	1	72	78	0	0	59
17 Nov. - -	446	157	52	6	2	77	83	1	0	67
24 Nov. - -	487	173	54	2	2	80	84	0	2	61
1 Dec. - -	544	176	82	6	7	110	110	3	3	57
8 Dec. - -	475	160	67	13	5	93	91	0	1	48
15 Dec. - -	613	206	80	6	4	101	113	1	2	109
22 Dec. - -	495	157	62	4	5	76	97	0	2	74
29 Dec. - -	441	195	63	5	2	94	77	2	2	61

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1795.	Whole Number buried.	Under two years.	Above sixty years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
6 Jan. - -	244	66	51	4	1	73	20	0	5	17
13 Jan. - -	532	129	139	13	6	158	49	0	9	14
20 Jan. - -	637	141	145	11	5	164	81	2	9	17
27 Jan. - -	543	128	143	11	5	157	42	0	3	24
3 Feb. - -	867	153	239	13	5	273	66	0	4	18
10 Feb. - -	735	133	203	11	6	231	55	0	5	21
17 Feb. - -	678	148	171	7	4	198	61	1	4	13
24 Feb. - -	635	145	150	12	8	155	49	1	9	19
3 Mar. - -	687	169	168	6	5	202	63	0	7	9
10 Mar. - -	568	155	131	6	3	142	54	1	4	5
17 Mar. - -	540	158	102	7	2	161	45	0	8	14
24 Mar. - -	446	146	82	4	5	111	41	0	5	9
31 Mar. - -	483	164	89	7	4	128	34	0	4	8
7 Apr. - -	339	111	65	6	1	97	35	0	3	5
14 Apr. - -	491	166	84	5	2	125	43	1	4	6
21 Apr. - -	426	146	54	3	3	127	48	1	10	5
28 Apr. - -	462	143	71	2	3	129	42	0	4	3
5 May - -	427	150	81	7	3	113	27	1	5	9
12 May - -	365	135	45	3	0	109	37	0	4	5
19 May - -	441	139	64	5	4	120	40	0	13	18
26 May - -	303	95	43	10	2	102	21	0	0	3
2 June - -	419	124	62	2	6	128	41	1	3	9
9 June - -	348	111	57	2	2	89	38	0	5	15
16 June - -	341	87	63	9	3	105	35	1	4	14
23 June - -	281	83	48	8	3	99	26	0	4	9
30 June - -	342	105	43	3	4	98	34	0	5	18

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1795.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Loosenefs.	Measles.	Small Pox.
7 July - -	245	72	41	5	1	68	30	0	5	13
14 July - -	362	86	63	12	0	92	39	0	5	23
21 July - -	273	95	42	8	2	95	28	0	6	16
28 July - -	303	108	42	3	2	89	29	0	6	25
4 Aug. - -	225	79	30	4	1	66	22	0	6	14
11 Aug. - -	193	59	24	1	3	51	24	0	0	15
18 Aug. - -	266	91	32	3	1	59	35	0	4	15
25 Aug. - -	232	74	34	3	0	62	24	0	1	11
1 Sept. - -	266	104	36	4	1	50	25	0	9	23
8 Sept. - -	398	172	57	4	3	81	31	0	3	21
15 Sept. - -	281	121	28	6	1	58	32	1	14	11
22 Sept. - -	247	113	24	2	2	42	16	1	6	23
29 Sept. - -	311	142	37	4	1	79	27	1	3	27
6 Oct. - -	410	184	58	7	5	90	26	1	16	28
13 Oct. - -	321	129	42	4	5	60	38	1	12	23
20 Oct. - -	360	151	39	4	1	79	43	1	8	47
27 Oct. - -	340	120	34	4	2	73	37	1	12	41
3 Nov. - -	320	129	34	3	0	82	28	1	14	27
10 Nov. - -	351	132	51	4	1	68	33	1	7	52
17 Nov. - -	595	186	76	5	5	175	47	0	15	67
24 Nov. - -	276	92	33	4	2	73	24	0	8	29
1 Dec. - -	691	193	103	5	3	204	56	0	7	62
8 Dec. - -	497	185	82	3	1	112	49	0	8	75
15 Dec. - -	233	67	39	5	1	61	27	0	11	28
22 Dec. - -	340	131	46	6	4	82	28	1	15	68
29 Dec. - -	253	70	26	2	3	56	27	0	11	47

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1796.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Childbed and Miscarriage.	Consumption.	Fever.	Colic, Flux, Gripes, Looseness.	Measles.	Small Pox.
5 Jan. - -	300	100	35	7	5	79	34	0	3	42
12 Jan. - -	273	87	37	5	1	53	25	1	9	32
19 Jan. - -	313	113	29	4	2	77	29	0	0	51
26 Jan. - -	257	96	20	11	2	47	23	0	1	44
2 Feb. - -	328	110	32	6	1	86	23	0	10	36
9 Feb. - -	363	122	44	7	6	93	33	0	4	62
16 Feb. - -	329	123	41	4	2	89	21	0	5	43
23 Feb. - -	372	119	65	6	3	90	31	0	7	51
1 Mar. - -	339	125	48	4	2	86	20	0	3	39
8 Mar. - -	323	112	45	6	2	91	17	0	6	47
15 Mar. - -	384	129	48	7	4	92	24	0	10	47
22 Mar. - -	363	130	48	6	2	92	30	0	4	33
29 Mar. - -	293	97	38	8	0	76	19	0	3	33
5 Apr. - -	415	147	57	4	3	116	28	0	5	50
12 Apr. - -	420	134	64	7	6	92	29	0	3	45
19 Apr. - -	366	146	42	3	3	84	22	0	4	44
26 Apr. - -	400	136	65	6	3	96	22	1	5	52
3 May - -	312	105	49	3	6	72	19	0	3	49
10 May - -	334	128	38	1	3	67	27	0	4	60
17 May - -	328	95	55	10	3	71	29	0	3	55
24 May - -	375	141	39	5	2	69	35	0	6	90
31 May - -	382	112	46	3	6	92	35	0	5	77
7 June - -	378	140	43	4	4	86	34	1	0	83
14 June - -	320	122	28	2	1	70	20	0	0	96
21 June - -	333	112	39	5	4	60	31	0	4	88
28 June - -	318	115	42	5	4	61	20	0	11	73

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1796.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
5 July - -	328	105	32	59	6	60	16	46	4	12
12 July - -	402	129	40	98	7	81	40	69	1	10
19 July - -	384	122	46	71	7	69	32	64	12	11
26 July - -	342	116	40	77	7	61	35	60	0	12
2 Aug. - -	324	116	30	80	2	80	17	57	6	12
9 Aug. - -	346	141	36	62	9	61	19	59	2	6
16 Aug. - -	306	119	25	69	5	62	19	49	1	8
23 Aug. - -	285	111	31	51	4	47	15	55	2	8
30 Aug. - -	373	140	35	78	3	75	34	73	6	22
6 Sept. - -	368	147	34	80	7	65	29	88	2	12
13 Sept. - -	447	185	48	85	6	91	36	83	4	13
20 Sept. - -	316	128	26	55	5	54	28	44	1	11
27 Sept. - -	433	184	47	74	2	60	48	79	8	18.
4 Oct. - -	366	144	39	58	6	62	19	73	1	12
11 Oct. - -	411	160	45	86	5	77	31	86	6	10
18 Oct. - -	303	139	35	57	7	67	26	63	3	7
25 Oct. - -	332	120	43	83	5	68	35	66	1	16
1 Nov. - -	424	136	68	96	8	96	36	74	6	21
8 Nov. - -	416	149	45	101	8	104	30	101	2	16
15 Nov. - -	444	145	61	113	4	113	46	82	9	15
22 Nov. - -	295	106	33	81	7	69	25	64	9	19
29 Nov. - -	383	140	63	91	9	80	38	90	12	19
6 Dec. - -	293	80	45	89	4	70	27	48	4	2
13 Dec. - -	1223*	342	226	332	16	309	95	275	47	29
20 Dec. - -	257	93	38	65	4	66	22	49	11	9
27 Dec. - -	206	64	35	51	3	65	20	46	7	9

* The Parish of St. George, Middlesex, gave in the Number for the whole Year, amounting to 532.

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1797.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
3 Jan. - -	544	161	90	148	14	147	45	105	16	23
10 Jan. - -	438	118	82	108	7	127	41	79	22	17
17 Jan. - -	290	87	63	71	5	73	31	55	13	13
24 Jan. - -	435	133	85	117	9	135	43	75	17	14
31 Jan. - -	421	134	82	110	10	118	31	72	20	24
7 Feb. - -	341	97	62	85	9	92	27	71	15	10
14 Feb. - -	304	78	53	85	7	104	31	54	9	10
21 Feb. - -	367	103	66	99	7	116	26	77	18	15
28 Feb. - -	393	108	81	104	5	102	33	77	21	21
7 Mar. - -	491	117	111	144	10	139	45	86	31	18
14 Mar. - -	412	109	104	103	8	116	30	78	27	20
21 Mar. - -	387	83	104	113	12	111	26	66	29	22
28 Mar. - -	508	113	126	139	9	151	39	99	30	30
4 Apr. - -	371	103	82	91	7	114	29	75	15	20
11 Apr. - -	309	80	53	92	9	73	32	63	15	15
18 Apr. - -	326	103	52	79	3	97	33	80	5	13
25 Apr. - -	371	105	59	121	3	101	31	82	30	20
2 May - -	362	92	78	105	9	110	35	78	14	17
9 May - -	300	85	43	91	3	92	31	62	8	14
16 May - -	328	92	54	94	5	105	22	73	3	16
23 May - -	309	78	46	102	7	92	22	54	2	30
30 May - -	271	73	47	77	6	73	24	67	3	15
6 June - -	265	82	38	72	6	75	28	61	3	9
13 June - -	257	66	46	79	2	77	18	63	6	11
20 June - -	326	97	49	96	7	99	35	67	3	18
27 June - -	256	69	40	82	3	85	22	64	1	16

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1797.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above fixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palſy, Suddenly.	Conſumption.	Fever.	Convulſions.	Aſthma.	Dropſy.
4 July - -	292	86	46	87	4	90	24	60	5	19
11 July - -	236	77	27	70	4	71	20	48	4	14
18 July - -	274	76	48	92	1	94	22	48	2	12
25 July - -	192	57	23	59	6	38	22	48	3	16
1 Aug. - -	289	98	38	74	7	79	24	74	1	10
8 Aug. - -	243	78	44	66	3	69	25	65	2	10
15 Aug. - -	333	112	45	91	5	92	35	83	7	14
22 Aug. - -	247	96	32	65	3	63	22	76	4	9
29 Aug. - -	263	107	30	70	7	47	24	73	2	13
5 Sept. - -	262	120	28	54	6	44	21	95	1	8
12 Sept. - -	261	92	35	78	2	65	28	69	9	15
19 Sept. - -	288	112	44	68	3	65	24	77	6	18
26 Sept. - -	289	117	41	63	9	65	24	90	3	9
3 Oct. - -	264	94	33	79	3	54	36	63	5	20
10 Oct. - -	255	81	44	66	3	60	24	65	6	11
17 Oct. - -	293	83	28	101	6	81	38	73	5	13
24 Oct. - -	206	81	31	52	2	56	17	53	1	13
31 Oct. - -	304	92	47	88	6	68	31	64	14	13
7 Nov. - -	360	119	60	83	6	96	26	92	1	13
14 Nov. - -	263	78	43	81	6	71	22	65	9	22
21 Nov. - -	383	107	47	123	4	108	42	85	13	13
28 Nov. - -	337	118	55	92	6	99	19	99	4	18
5 Dec. - -	422	115	63	122	8	130	45	102	13	27
12 Dec. - -	625	180	107	159	11	204	50	159	14	33
19 Dec. - -	180	49	33	56	7	53	10	42	6	15
26 Dec. - -	205	64	36	63	2	50	18	41	6	12

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1798.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
2 Jan. - -	349	119	41	86	7	100	23	91	8	18
9 Jan. - -	280	78	38	81	10	77	25	69	13	15
16 Jan. - -	396	114	83	103	8	93	39	99	14	16
23 Jan. - -	295	83	54	82	14	84	28	69	12	15
30 Jan. - -	305	104	45	83	6	93	24	81	9	14
6 Feb. - -	314	81	63	86	10	91	23	63	8	22
13 Feb. - -	405	120	68	102	5	109	40	88	13	22
20 Feb. - -	391	100	78	127	6	116	44	69	16	23
27 Feb. - -	495	132	96	138	9	133	33	109	17	30
6 Mar. - -	403	112	68	114	9	125	27	88	16	22
13 Mar. - -	320	95	63	75	7	99	18	68	12	14
20 Mar. - -	328	102	48	102	10	96	28	67	18	24
27 Mar. - -	380	120	68	106	4	119	29	96	12	20
3 Apr. - -	360	115	51	101	6	112	27	87	11	15
10 Apr. - -	252	76	39	62	3	69	27	47	9	18
17 Apr. - -	415	131	51	111	5	122	31	95	10	18
24 Apr. - -	340	94	40	106	6	84	44	62	9	18
1 May - -	372	95	58	113	10	98	29	72	10	19
8 May - -	304	80	38	92	3	90	19	78	7	14
15 May - -	349	99	44	109	6	99	33	54	11	14
22 May - -	308	89	38	91	10	88	25	59	3	19
29 May - -	266	72	37	72	4	69	33	40	7	18
5 June - -	329	97	47	99	5	81	29	58	7	12
12 June - -	346	104	47	104	2	96	39	68	5	11
19 June - -	321	87	45	94	6	80	29	69	5	12
26 June - -	349	112	49	99	5	92	34	72	5	10

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1798.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
3 July - -	308	96	44	82	2	71	29	58	5	10
10 July - -	267	78	45	66	6	66	30	48	5	11
17 July - -	329	98	47	77	4	96	33	49	5	14
24 July - -	335	121	35	93	4	86	30	67	7	9
31 July - -	396	149	48	91	11	65	37	80	5	10
7 Aug. - -	329	118	40	77	7	83	35	86	2	12
14 Aug. - -	302	114	47	62	3	58	30	73	3	12
21 Aug. - -	387	151	46	90	5	73	39	73	6	18
28 Aug. - -	311	114	39	69	8	54	28	65	0	19
4 Sept. - -	358	144	33	72	9	80	39	85	6	8
11 Sept. - -	372	159	39	73	1	90	34	78	6	10
18 Sept. - -	432	188	57	75	3	88	29	108	10	13
25 Sept. - -	341	122	46	72	9	60	42	62	2	15
2 Oct. - -	416	141	32	101	3	86	56	70	6	12
9 Oct. - -	311	121	37	59	2	54	34	58	4	12
16 Oct. - -	333	107	42	85	4	70	42	55	5	11
23 Oct. - -	422	133	58	104	8	98	45	74	4	16
30 Oct. - -	300	93	45	70	3	59	40	52	1	7
6 Nov. - -	422	117	56	102	8	106	39	68	8	15
13 Nov. - -	353	112	31	80	4	86	42	53	7	16
20 Nov. - -	334	105	46	90	5	83	37	50	9	10
27 Nov. - -	403	116	62	98	8	89	56	75	11	7
4 Dec. - -	556	160	89	128	5	116	59	100	5	19
11 Dec. - -	481	147	67	117	10	98	49	75	20	17
18 Dec. - -	395	118	57	88	4	89	49	79	18	10
25 Dec. - -	448	120	86	110	3	127	52	90	7	12

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1799.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
1 Jan. - -	364	107	72	91	10	98	40	59	9	14
8 Jan. - -	458	161	69	104	4	107	50	92	18	16
15 Jan. - -	478	137	88	135	6	113	32	90	28	26
22 Jan. - -	496	127	86	153	3	128	60	82	38	25
29 Jan. - -	408	129	70	103	7	90	41	88	21	7
5 Feb. - -	395	103	86	105	10	93	32	75	26	18
12 Feb. - -	479	147	86	135	8	130	48	115	20	20
19 Feb. - -	494	135	85	133	7	140	45	91	38	26
26 Feb. - -	429	117	85	116	9	88	44	73	33	11
5 Mar. - -	385	110	71	97	8	106	29	69	26	15
12 Mar. - -	339	84	73	86	9	88	38	71	15	14
19 Mar. - -	329	86	56	94	11	97	23	62	11	21
26 Mar. - -	291	80	47	84	5	73	29	63	11	13
2 Apr. - -	433	102	94	120	9	148	32	84	21	23
9 Apr. - -	434	125	83	115	5	126	48	109	11	23
16 Apr. - -	431	113	93	105	11	118	30	88	24	21
23 Apr. - -	267	76	42	82	6	88	22	74	12	9
30 Apr. - -	395	119	63	113	8	115	42	95	13	24
7 May - -	280	86	53	80	3	75	22	67	6	13
14 May - -	244	53	39	90	0	71	37	46	13	16
21 May - -	472	132	116	117	14	145	25	107	15	25
28 May - -	398	108	81	104	6	114	39	81	14	22
4 June - -	301	88	59	79	4	97	24	66	6	14
11 June - -	284	90	50	69	7	76	18	65	8	17
18 June - -	236	61	51	81	3	69	33	49	10	15
25 June - -	321	96	51	99	4	98	36	65	12	23

TABLE II.—*continued.*

Weekly Bills of Mortality. 1799.	Whole Number buried.	Under two Years.	Above sixty Years.	Between twenty and fifty Years.	Apoplexy, Palsy, Suddenly.	Consumption.	Fever.	Convulsions.	Asthma.	Dropsy.
2 July - -	262	66	57	71	7	74	27	58	10	18
9 July - -	271	69	50	86	5	83	35	40	3	18
16 July - -	321	66	63	98	11	87	29	63	6	25
23 July - -	263	85	49	71	6	64	19	60	3	19
30 July - -	200	72	31	54	2	55	20	50	2	13
6 Aug. - -	300	90	52	85	9	87	25	69	7	16
13 Aug. - -	297	89	43	72	5	80	24	77	5	12
20 Aug. - -	248	74	38	64	10	67	25	51	7	12
27 Aug. - -	184	62	27	43	3	56	16	49	6	7
3 Sept. - -	275	79	56	72	6	69	29	63	7	9
10 Sept. - -	231	72	27	73	5	59	21	56	0	20
17 Sept. - -	212	64	34	50	6	49	27	31	8	12
24 Sept. - -	296	84	43	79	5	86	37	67	7	18
1 Oct. - -	255	90	37	65	2	62	34	55	4	13
8 Oct. - -	394	124	46	118	8	119	33	109	2	18
15 Oct. - -	318	88	35	110	3	81	51	60	4	16
22 Oct. - -	292	93	47	74	9	76	33	70	3	11
29 Oct. - -	310	104	45	85	7	86	35	70	6	16
5 Nov. - -	298	88	53	81	7	56	35	68	9	17
12 Nov. - -	337	98	57	95	6	85	35	76	7	25
19 Nov. - -	284	81	47	89	9	80	23	53	6	12
26 Nov. - -	409	133	62	103	12	112	34	72	13	23
3 Dec. - -	389	122	79	86	11	88	34	84	14	19
10 Dec. - -	786	207	140	235	14	175	78	158	40	44
17 Dec. - -	272	72	47	64	4	73	24	40	19	18
24 Dec. - -	318	79	55	97	10	79	40	58	23	17
31 Dec. - -	358	108	70	89	6	100	31	79	10	24

PART I.

OF THE INCREASE AND DECREASE OF *DIFFERENT DISEASES.*

THE fluctuation obſervable in certain diſeaſes may be conſidered under two diſtinct points of view: the firſt comprehending their variations in different years; the ſecond thoſe which take place in different parts of the ſame year. Each of them affords matter of curioſity, and uſeful information.

THE two preceding Tables exhibit a method in which ſuch obſervations may ſafely be conducted. For, whatever errors be ſuppoſed to have crept into the regiſters from which they are formed, yet when taken together, and conſidered on an extenſive ſcale, they muſt be admitted to conſtitute a very unexceptionable baſis for medical reaſoning. And the ſeveral objects being thus brought nearer to each other, and ſeen as it were ſide by ſide, the judgment may be formed not only much more eaſily, but, it is apprehended, much more certainly alſo, than could be done in any other manner. Another

great

great advantage reſulting from ſuch tables is, that they do of themſelves often ſuggeſt concluſions, which correct, or perhaps wholly contradict, the expectations raiſed upon no better foundation than vague conjecture, or popular opinion.

The particular articles, of which theſe tables are compoſed, were ſelected as being thoſe from which moſt was expected to be learned. It ſhould however be noticed, that the weekly table is not perfectly uniform; for, inſtead of being made out from ten years in ſucceſſion, five were choſen at one time, and five others after an interval of above thirty years: to afford an opportunity of comparing the two periods with each other. Beſides, from July 1796, an alteration may be obſerved in the mode of keeping them. But this, which was introduced to ſatisfy ſome views of the author, it is hoped will rather prove an advantage, than any embarraſsment, to thoſe who may be inclined to examine it; and therefore has not ſince been changed.

1. Of the variation in the whole numbers chriſtened and buried.

The annual mortality appears by the pariſh clerks returns to have increaſed from the beginning of the century to the year 1720; to have been at its greateſt height from 1720 to 1750; and from that time gradually to have decreaſed.

In the mean time, the chriſtenings increaſed from 1700 to 1727; then decreaſed to 1740; were at the loweſt between

1740

1740 and 1760; and from that time have gradually increaſed.

That both the chriſtenings and burials ſhould have become more frequent during the firſt thirty years, can be no matter of ſurpriſe, when we conſider the increaſe both in number, and ſize, of the out-pariſhes. For it will be found upon examination, that the increaſe has been confined to them alone.

On the other hand, the ſubſequent decreaſe of burials has taken place only in the city pariſhes; and is, no doubt, owing to people living wider, and taking up more room than formerly. They no longer ſubmit to the inconvenience of being crowded ſeveral together under a ſingle roof. But many merchants with their families, and many merchants' clerks alſo, who uſed all to live in the ſame houſe, now retire, eſpecially when they are ſick, to others ſituated without the limits of the bills of mortality, or at leaſt without the city.

In the firſt five years of the century, the average numbers dying annually in each of the four diviſions into which the pariſhes are diſtributed, were as follows:

Within the Walls.	Without the Walls.	Out Pariſhes.	Weſtminſter.
2,192	6,873	6,223	3,285

between the years 1740 and 1745 they were

2,328	6,975	11,784	6,164

and from 1790 to 1795 they were

1,374	4,108	9,600	5,110

And

And though London has been very much extended, and the number of its inhabitants proportionally enlarged within the laſt thirty years; yet this having taken place principally in the pariſh of Mary-le-bone, which is not included in the bills of mortality, it therefore makes no addition to the yearly accounts.

It is not eaſy to account for the diminution of chriſtenings between the years 1740 and 1760. But it may be obſerved, that the number of females buried in the ſame twenty years not being ſenſibly leſſened, the defect, however that ſhould happen, ſeems to have ariſen from the ſmaller proportion among them who bore children.

Whatever be the cauſe of this, the chriſtenings appear in fact to have been feweſt at a time when the burials were nearly at the higheſt. Hence the difference of the numbers chriſtened and buried is greater between the years 1740 and 1750, than at any preceding or ſubſequent period. This difference diminiſhed afterwards; but ſtill continued very conſiderable till about 1770. Now, it was from an average of ten years taken in this interval, namely from 1759 to 1768, that Dr. Price conſtructed his *(a)* tables of the probabilities of life, and from which he deduced the population of London. The exceſs of the burials above the chriſtenings amounted at that time to nearly one-third *(b)* of the whole number

(a) Tab. XIII. and XV. of his Obſervations on Reverſionary Payments, 5th edit. *(b)* Vol. I. p. 340.

number of burials. At preſent, it is leſs than one-twentieth: nay, in the years 1790, 1797, and 1799, the exceſs was actually on the ſide of the chriſtenings. Such a prodigious change ought, one would think, conſiderably to alter Dr. Price's concluſions. Some allowances are however to be made *(c)*; particularly in conſequence of an act of parliament paſſed in 1767, by which it is required that all pariſh infants ſhall be ſent into the country in three weeks after their birth, to be nurſed there till they are ſix years old. How many burials of children are taken out of the bills in conſequence of this act, it is not eaſy to eſtimate; but that it muſt be a large number, is rendered probable by the remarkable decreaſe of thoſe reported to die under two years of age. Between the years 1728, when the ages were firſt ſet down, and 1738, their number amounted one year with another to above 10,000; in the next decad to above 9,000; in the decad following to 7,800; and between 1790 and 1800, to little more than 6,000 annually. It is to be hoped, however, that as this decreaſe began to take place before the date of the act in queſtion, ſo its continuance ſince may in part be with juſtice attributed to the greater ſalubrity of the town *(c*)*.

2. THERE

(c) See of Dr. P.'s Work, Vol. I. p. 251. note.

(c)* It appears from the books of the Foundling Hoſpital, that the mortality among the children under the age of twelve months, who are all put out to nurſe in the country, has within the laſt thirty years, diminiſhed in the proportion of twelve to ſeven. The average of the laſt ten years being only one in ſix.

Account of Foundling Hoſpital in London, 1799.

2. THERE is ſcarcely any fact to be collected from the bills of mortality more worthy the attention of phyſicians, than the gradual decline of the dyſentery. In the ſeventeenth century, the number of deaths under the titles of *bloody-flux* and *griping in the guts*, appear never to have been leſs than one thouſand, and ſome years to have exceeded four thouſand; and for five and twenty years together, from 1667 to 1692, they every year amounted to above two thouſand. But from the beginning of the eighteenth century things were materially changed. After the year 1733, the article of *griping in the guts* was joined to that of *colic*: taking then the three diſeaſes of *bloody-flux*, *colic*, and *gripes*, we may obſerve their decreaſe to have been nearly as follows:

From 1700 to 1710 the average is about 1,070 annually.

1710 to 1720 - - - - - -	770
1720 to 1730 - - - - - -	700
1730 to 1740 - - - - - -	350
1740 to 1750 - - - - - -	150
1750 to 1760 - - - - - -	110
1760 to 1770 - - - - - -	80
1770 to 1780 - - - - - -	70
1780 to 1790 - - - - - -	40
1790 to 1800 - - - - - -	20

Even in the years 1762 and 1780, when modern phyſicians have deſcribed the dyſentery as epidemical in London, the amount of the ſame three articles was in the firſt year only 209, and in the laſt 93.

THE

The cauſe of ſo great an alteration in the health of the people of England (for it is not confined to the metropolis) I have no heſitation in attributing to the improvements which have gradually taken place, not only in London, but in all great towns, and in the manner of living throughout the kingdom; particularly with reſpect to cleanlineſs and ventilation. For the reaſons upon which this opinion is founded, I muſt refer the reader to what will be ſaid hereafter *(d)* concerning the plague.

3. The inoculation of the ſmall pox having been firſt uſed in England ſince the beginning of the eighteenth century, and having been now for many years generally adopted by all the middle and higher orders of ſociety; it becomes an intereſting enquiry to obſerve, from a review of the laſt hundred years, what have been the effects of ſo great an innovation, upon the mortality occaſioned by that diſeaſe. But, however beneficial inoculation prove to individuals, or indeed to the nation at large, the bills of mortality inconteſtibly ſhew, that in London more perſons have died of the ſmall pox ſince the introduction of that practice.

The poor, who have little care of preſerving their lives beyond the getting their daily bread, make a very large part of mankind. Their prejudices are ſtrong, and not eaſily overcome by reaſon. Hence, while the inoculation of the wealthy keeps up a perpetual ſource of infection, many others, who

(d) Part II.

who either cannot afford, or do not chuſe, to adopt the ſame method, are continually expoſed to the diſtemper. And the danger is ſtill increaſed by the inconſiderate manner in which it has lately been the cuſtom to ſend into the open air perſons in every ſtage of the diſeaſe, without any regard to the ſafety of their neighbours. It is by theſe means, that while inoculation may juſtly be eſteemed one of the greateſt improvements ever introduced into the medical art, it occaſions many to fall a ſacrifice to what has obtained the diſtinction of the *natural* diſeaſe. This muſt always be an objection againſt making any great city the place for inoculation, until the practice is become univerſal among all ranks of people.

Out of every thouſand deaths in the bills of mortality, the number attributed to the ſmall pox during the firſt thirty years of the eighteenth century, before inoculation could yet have had any effect upon them, amounted to 74. During an equal number of years at the end of the century, they amounted to 95. So that, as far as we are enabled to judge from hence, they would appear to have increaſed in a proportion of above five to four.

I cannot refuſe myſelf the ſatisfaction of ſtating on the other hand, from the printed accounts of the Small Pox Hoſpital, where from their numbers the truth can beſt be aſcertained, that while by the natural ſmall pox there die one in ſix, from the inoculated ſmall pox three hundred and ninety-nine out of four hundred recover.

4. The

4. The yearly ſum of the deaths ranged under the heads of apoplexy, palſy, and ſuddenly, fluctuates without any certain increaſe or decreaſe till the beginning of the eighteenth century. From that time, the proportion they bear to the whole number of deaths may be obſerved to have been gradually, and conſtantly, increaſing. It is now above double what it was an hundred years ago. To what cauſe then ought this to be attributed? Is it owing to any alteration in our manners? or in our diet? and what is that alteration? Some perſons have accuſed ſpirituous liquors; ſome the uſe of tea; and other things. But I confeſs myſelf by no means ſatisfied either with the conjectures of others, or with any I have myſelf been able to form upon this ſubject. The fact however reſts upon too ſtrong evidence to be queſtioned.

5. The deaths imputed to the meaſles are very remarkably different in different years; ſometimes amounting to one thirtieth of the whole number of deaths, and at other times falling ſhort of one in four thouſand. Yet it is poſſible that this diſeaſe may not in reality be ſo very irregularly epidemical, or fatal. The ſcarlet fever, and malignant ſore throat, often occaſion ſuch appearances upon the ſkin, as may eaſily be miſtaken for the meaſles by better judges than the mothers and nurſes, who thinking themſelves able to diſtinguiſh this diſtemper, and equal to the management of it, often call in no other aſſiſtance. This miſtake is well known to have been ſometimes committed within theſe few years, during which the ſcarlet fever, and malignant ſore throat, have been

ſo

ſo generally underſtood. It may perhaps have happened in every year, in which an extraordinary number of deaths are charged to the meaſles. If ſo, thoſe two formidable diſtempers (if indeed they are two diſtinct diſtempers, and not one and the ſame) being diſguiſed under the name of meaſles, may have been older, and more general, than is uſually imagined *(e)*.

6. The table does not repreſent the mortality among lying-in women to be diminiſhed in a degree equal to the truth. But it muſt be remembered, that the proportion dying on this account ought to be referred to the number of births, and not to the burials, as was there done for the ſake of uniformity. Eſtimated in this way, the numbers would be materially altered. As for inſtance, out of every thouſand deliveries during the firſt ten years, fifteen women would then appear to have died inſtead of eleven; and ſo of the reſt.

The following Table is inſerted from the printed account of the Britiſh Lying-in Hoſpital in Brownlow-ſtreet, which gives a much more favourable ſtatement of this matter:

(e) No leſs an author than Morton appears to have confounded together the meaſles and the ſcarlet fever. He ſays, in his 5th chap. *De Febre Scarlatina*, "Hunc morbum prorſus eundem eſſe cum morbillis cenſeo, et ſolo efflorescentiæ "modo ab illis diſtare."

ACCOUNT of the WOMEN DELIVERED, and CHILDREN BORN, in the BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL, as alſo the TWINS, STILL-BIRTHS, and DEATHS, from the Time of its Inſtitution, in November 1749, to the Firſt of January 1801 incluſive.

A. D.	No. of Women Delivered.	Boys Born.	Girls Born.	Total No. of Children Born.	Women had Twins.	Children Still-born.	Children Died.	Women Died.	PROPORTION of DEATHS. Of the Women.	Of the Children.
1749	3	3		3						
1750	175	93	84	177	2	11	5	3		
1751	337	181	160	341	4	15	9	12		
1752	433	236	201	437	4	22	27	14		
1753	284	141	146	287	3	10	21	10		
1754	321	175	151	326	5	9	66	12	1 in 42	1 in 15.
1755	370	190	185	375	5	8	34	9		
1756	370	188	184	372	2	8	10	3		
1757	478	262	219	481	3	12	22	7		
1758	521	277	254	531	10	6	16	8		
1759	472	253	226	479	7	12	14	6		
1760	427	228	206	434	7	11	58	26		
1761	390	197	198	395	5	20	31	12		
1762	397	199	199	398	1	8	38	7		
1763	414	209	212	421	7	15	32	10	1 in 50	1 in 20.
1764	366	191	178	369	3	15	17	7		
1765	560	311	258	569	9	12	20	9		
1766	588	293	304	597	9	25	17	10		
1767	571	303	272	575	4	7	10	4		
1768	588	301	288	589	1	5	2	3		
1769	561	292	280	572	11	14	13	7		
1770	472	225	249	474	2	13	9	28		
1771	541	266	282	548	7	17	14	4		
1772	596	320	286	606	10	25	17	4		
1773	627	336	298	634	7	19	14	4	1 in 53	1 in 42.
1774	553	292	266	558	5	36	3	18		
1775	570	295	280	575	5	22	13	21		
1776	543	276	275	551	8	26	9	3		
1777	602	312	293	605	3	24	24	6		
1778	572	281	298	579	7	19	18	11		

A. D.	No. of Women Delivered.	Boys Born.	Girls Born.	Total No. of Children Born.	Women had Twins.	Children Still-born.	Children Died.	Women Died.	PROPORTION of DEATHS. Of the Women.	PROPORTION of DEATHS. Of the Children.
1779	563	310	257	567	4	31	8	3		
1780	566	310	259	569	3	33	4	8		
1781	524	275	255	530	6	26	9	14		
1782	549	298	260	558	9	15	14	13		
1783	587	308	288	596	9	33	17	5	1 in 60	1 in 44.
1784	550	283	272	555	5	24	10	14		
1785	435	231	212	443	8	24	16	6		
1786	597	333	276	609	12	35	19	9		
1787	564	290	283	573	9	36	18	9		
1788	578	296	287	583	5	25	10	10		
1789	599	296	308	604	5	42	12	1		
1790	622	317	313	630	8	34	5	7		
1791	621	325	303	628	7	39	2	1		
1792	610	312	306	618	8	29	4	1		
1793	590	300	297	597	7	24	12	1	1 in 288	1 in 77.
1794	583	286	305	591	8	26	6	2		
1795	612	310	310	620	8	32	13	2		
1796	627	326	305	631	4	24	4	1		
1797	619	332	293	625	6	25	9	3		
1798	566	285	292	577	11	31	12	2		
1799	521	282	248	530	9	21	7	1	1 in 938	1 in 118.
1800	417	211	210	421	4	18	1	0		
Total -	26202	13642	12871	26513	311	1073	795	391		

Proportion of Boys to Girls born in the Hospital is about 19 to 18.
Children Still-born in ditto, about - - 1 to 25.
Women having had Twins, about - - 1 to 84.

7. SOME miſcellaneous obſervations on the yearly bills of mortality.

THE following ſtatement was deduced in a coarſe manner, from an average of about ten years, for the purpoſe of comparing generally the mortality occaſioned by certain diſeaſes, at the beginning, middle, and end of the eighteenth century; care being taken in each period to ſelect ſuch years, in which the whole number of deaths was nearly the ſame, viz. about 21,000.

	Beginning.	Middle.	End.
Abortive and Still-born -	600	570	750
Colic, Flux, Gripes, &c. -	1,100	135	20
Conſumption - - - -	3,000	4,000	5,000
Dropſy - - - - - - -	850	900	900
Evil - - - - - - - -	70	15	8
Fever - - - - - - -	3,000	3,000	2,000
Gout - - - - - - -	26	40	66
Lunatic - - - - - - -	27	75	70
Palſy, Apoplexy, &c. - -	157	280	300
Rickets - - - - - - -	380	11	1
Small Pox - - - - -	1,600	2,000	2,000

To theſe might be added the article of convulſions. But it will appear upon enquiry, that the change has in this inſtance taken place in the name only, and not in the real

number of deaths. There can be little doubt, but the ſame diſeaſes of children, which uſed formerly to be called chryſoms and infants, are now accumulated under the general head of convulſions. For we may obſerve the decreaſe of the two former articles to have taken place in a proportion very exactly correſponding with the increaſe of the latter.

The apparent increaſe of the abortives and ſtill-born will likewiſe in great meaſure vaniſh, if we refer them, as we ought, not to the burials, but to the births; the number of chriſtenings, at the three periods above mentioned, bearing very nearly the ſame proportion to each other, that obtains in theſe articles. Nevertheleſs it muſt be obſerved, that the regiſter of the Brownlow-ſtreet Hoſpital alſo exhibits a very ſenſible increaſe in the number of children ſtill-born.

It is not eaſy to give a ſatisfactory reaſon for all the changes which may be obſerved to take place in the hiſtory of diſeaſes. Nor is it any diſgrace to phyſicians, if their cauſes are often ſo gradual in their operation, or ſo ſubtle, as to elude inveſtigation. Of this kind are the origin and decline of the rickets. It is pleaſing however to look back upon the progreſs of this diſeaſe, and trace it from year to year, as it has been growing continually leſs and leſs fatal.

The ſame obſervations are applicable to the evil alſo, unleſs we ſuppoſe its apparent decreaſe ought rather to be attributed to a greater backwardneſs in acknowledging a complaint now univerſally believed to be hereditary.

Of fevers I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak more particularly afterwards *.

The view which preſents itſelf of conſumptions, gout, lunacy, and palſy, muſt be confeſſed to be by no means favourable. The firſt of theſe probably includes many other chronical diſtempers, beſides the pulmonary conſumption. All of them ſeem to be almoſt, if not altogether, unknown among barbarous nations, and may perhaps be the natural conſequences of arts and civilization. As theſe again ſhoot up into luxury and intemperance, their effects may well be expected to become proportionally more conſpicuous. Dr. Ruſh of Philadelphia has reported concerning the uncultivated nations of North America, that fevers, inflammations, and dyſenteries make up the ſum of their complaints; and in particular, "that after much enquiry he had not been "able to find a ſingle inſtance of madneſs, melancholy, "or fatuity, among them *(g)*." In a ſubſequent part of his work, the ſame author, ſpeaking of the pulmonary conſumption, declares it to be "unknown among the Indians "of North America *(h)*." Likewiſe Mr. Park, in his Account of the Interior Parts of Africa, ſays, that notwithſtanding longevity is uncommon among the Negroes, their diſeaſes appeared to be but few in number: fevers and fluxes are the moſt common, and the moſt fatal.

The

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(g) Medical Enquiries and Obſervations, by B. Ruſh, Vol. I. p. 25.

(h) Vol. I. p. 159.

THE diſcerning Sydenham had long before obſerved, that "acute diſeaſes come from God, but chronical diſeaſes originate with ourſelves *(i)*." Indeed we cannot doubt, that idleneſs and intemperance, with their long train of vices; that covetouſneſs and anxiety, the neceſſary attendants upon commerce; and manufactories, which ſupply the materials for it; muſt all in their ſeveral ways be injurious to health. And it is not improbable, that they may very largely have contributed to ſwell out the number of deaths under each of the diſeaſes in queſtion.

IT does not appear by the bills of mortality, that the number of deaths from dropſy was increaſed by the act paſſed in 1690, for the encouragement of the diſtillation of malt ſpirits. Between the years 1718 and 1751, the average number is one-tenth greater than at any period before or ſince. In 1751 the diſtillation of ſpirits was reſtrained by act of parliament, and the uſe of them checked by additional duties. Petitions were the year after ſent up to parliament from various parts of the kingdom, ſetting forth the good effects of theſe regulations upon the morals and health of the people, and praying for a continuance of them. And the bills of mortality ſeem to confirm this, by the article of dropſy falling from above one thouſand annually to nine hundred, and ſtill more by the reduction of exceſſive-drinking from forty to five.

OF

(i) Morbi acuti Deum habent autorem, chronici ipſos nos.

Of the Weekly Table of Mortality.

It is not my deſign to enter into a detail of all the particulars deducible from this table. The following general reſults however are ſubmitted to the public, as a ſpecimen of the uſes to which it may be applied.

1. The whole number of deaths is greateſt in January, February, and March; and leaſt in June, July, and Auguſt.

I believe this is contrary to the received opinion, which may perhaps have been handed down from thoſe ages, when the authority of Hippocrates, and Galen, ſuperſeded the evidence of the cleareſt facts *(k)*.

Our table correſponds with the following one from Dr. Short's obſervations, containing the aggregate of the monthly mortality in London for fifteen years, from 1728 to 1743; which I inſert rather than the eleventh table of the ſame work, becauſe it affords the additional information of the ages at which the ſeveral deaths took place, ſhewing the different fluctuation at different periods of life.

(k) Celſus, who probably copied it from Hippocrates, ſays, "Igitur ſaluberrimum ver eſt; proxime deinde ab hoc, hiems; periculoſior æſtas; autumnus longe periculoſiſſimus." Lib. II. Cap. 1.

	Under 2 Years.	From 2 to 5.	From 5 to 10.	From 10 to 20.	From 20 to 30.	From 30 to 40.	From 40 to 50.	From 50 to 60.	From 60 to 70.	From 70 to 80.	From 80 to 90.	90 and upwards.	TOTALS.
Jan. -	12,593	2,678	1,306	1,232	3,021	3,576	3,730	3,480	2,625	1,988	1,203	250	37,682
Feb. -	12,550	2,918	1,275	1,139	2,852	3,125	3,409	3,086	2,708	1,997	1,072	226	36,157
March	12,681	3,254	1,267	1,039	2,905	3,423	3,450	3,823	2,281	1,855	1,002	146	37,126
Apr. -	12,731	3,184	1,168	1,021	2,728	3,247	3,088	2,549	2,107	1,496	775	148	34,242
May -	12,268	3,194	1,269	1,004	2,494	3,991	3,046	2,628	2,174	1,427	768	147	33,410
June -	11,363	3,073	1,239	1,048	2,353	2,597	2,803	2,164	1,726	1,129	595	107	30,197
July -	10,063	2,889	1,195	952	2,261	2,748	2,622	2,259	1,558	1,021	528	114	28,210
Aug. -	12,684	2,897	1,170	926	2,241	2,426	2,755	2,543	1,555	1,049	481	102	30,829
Sept. -	13,563	3,101	1,168	1,081	2,401	2,933	2,850	2,558	1,787	1,212	617	104	33,375
Oct. -	13,832	3,069	1,190	1,080	2,344	3,215	3,125	2,372	2,030	1,439	786	108	34,590
Nov. -	12,010	2,867	1,169	1,097	2,685	3,378	3,255	2,924	2,313	1,511	850	122	34,181
Dec. -	12,319	3,055	1,297	1,136	2,617	3,416	3,609	3,090	2,504	1,876	846	187	35,952
Total -	148,657	36,179	14,713	12 755	30,902	37,075	37,742	33,476	25,168	18,000	9,523	1,761	405,951

If we make allowance for the ſhortneſs of the month of February, that will appear in fact to be the moſt fatal of the twelve *(l)*.

It may be ſuſpected perhaps at firſt ſight, that much of this ought to be attributed to the greater number of people reſident in London during the winter, than in the ſummer months. But what then ſhall we ſay to the following account collected by Dr. Short from the regiſters of five and twenty different country towns in England, including the burials of a great many years? For the reſult there alſo is very nearly the ſame, making allowance for thoſe irregularities, to which ſmall communities muſt of neceſſity be liable:

January	16,932	July	13,034
February	16,126	Auguſt	12,795
March	17,641	September	12,999
April	17,670	October	13,629
May	16,618	November	14,074
June	13,680	December	15,658

The monthly mortality at York agrees ſtill more perfectly with what has been obſerved of London. The annexed Table,

(l) The bills being ſent in every week makes the monthly mortality neceſſarily liable to ſome uncertainty. For, the ſame month which one year contains five weeks, may in the next contain only four. Theſe inaccuracies, which might be conſiderable in a compariſon of only two or three years, will diminiſh in proportion to the number of years which are eſtimated together.

Table, publiſhed by Dr. White, ſhews the number of burials in that city during ſeven years :

Jan. - 320	Apr. - 277	July - 220	Oct. - 237
Feb. - 282	May - 265	Aug. - 237	Nov. - 230
Mar. - 316	June - 274	Sept. - 225	Dec. - 292

The truth of theſe obſervations is moreover confirmed by the regiſters kept at Edinburgh, and in Paris, and throughout the kingdom of Sweden *(m)*.

On the other hand, at Marſeilles, and at Montpellier, the monthly mortality is ſtated to vary as follows *(n)* :

	Marſeilles.	Montpellier.
January - - -	1,801	853
February - - -	1,597	774
March - - -	1,704	696
April - - -	1,681	694
May - - - -	1,504	673
June - - - -	1,465	769
July - - - -	1,881	1,038
Auguſt - - -	1,849	1,114
September - -	1,725	1,100
October - - -	1,668	1,093
November - -	1,765	1,040
December - -	1,659	950

Is

(m) Price on Reverſionary Payments, Vol. II. p. 271. 5th edit. where obſerve that the words *former* and *latter* are tranſpoſed.

(n) Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Medicine, ann. 1777 & 1781.

Is the difference between this table and the former, occaſioned by the different temperature of the places, from whence the accounts are drawn? In very cold climates, it is obvious that the coldeſt part of the year is the ſeaſon moſt to be apprehended. For increaſe the cold but a little, and it becomes quite inconſiſtent with human life. But all the accounts we have of places ſuffering from exceſſive heat, agree in deſcribing the autumn as the time of their greateſt mortality. Now, it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe with regard to temperature, as in moſt other things, that ſome degree of heat intermediate between theſe extremes muſt be moſt congenial to the human frame; and that as any climate approaches nearer to the one, or the other limit, it will naturally partake more of their reſpective inconveniences. This muſt not be ſo underſtood, as if it were meant to preclude the operation of other cauſes. Many circumſtances peculiar to particular ſituations, will no doubt often have a much ſuperior influence in determining their ſalubrity, or unwholeſomeneſs. Still, where theſe are equal, there is ſome ground to believe that the effects before mentioned do in fact take place.

2. UNDER two years of age, there die moſt either in January February and March, or elſe in September and October.

It ſhould be noticed that baptiſms, and I preſume births, are uſually more numerous in the beginning of the year, than in the ſubſequent parts of it; as appears from the concurrent teſtimony of the London Bills (*n**), and of thoſe kept

(*n**) Short's Obſ. p. 176.

kept in various parts of the country *(o)*, and from the regiſters of the whole kingdom of Sweden *(p)*.

This, if we reflect on the great mortality among children in the firſt two or three months from their birth, will in ſome meaſure account for the exceſs of their burials in the early part of the year. But when the number again increaſes in September and October, I apprehend that may truly be looked upon as the ſeaſon more eſpecially prejudicial to young children. It is at this time that bowel complaints are moſt prevalent in perſons of all ages *(p*)*; and when it is conſidered how large a part they conſtitute of the diſeaſes of infants, it ſeems by no means improbable that the general cauſe ſhould be capable of producing this particular effect.

3. Of thoſe aged above ſixty years, by much the greateſt number die in the coldeſt months, and the feweſt in the middle of ſummer.

There can be little doubt but this ought to be attributed to the degree of cold. For univerſally old people, above all others, are moſt ſenſibly affected by it.

How much they differ from children in this reſpect, cannot be ſhewn more evidently than by a compariſon of their reſpective

(o) Short's Obſ. p. 142. *(p)* Price on Rever. Payments, Vol. II. p. 271.
(p)* See p. 54.

ſpective numbers during the correſponding months of January 1795 and 1796. For of theſe two ſucceſſive winters, the month of January has in one inſtance been the coldeſt, and in the other the warmeſt, of which any regular account has ever been kept in this country. The following Table exhibits at one view the mean height of Fahrenheit's thermometer in London for each week of the two years, together with the whole number of deaths, the deaths of perſons above ſixty years old, and the deaths of children under two years:

1795.					1796.				
Week ending	Mean Heat. Morn. Noon.	Whole No of Deaths.	Aged above 60.	Under 2 Years.	Week ending	Mean Heat. Morn. Noon.	Whole No of Deaths.	Aged above 60.	Under 2 Years.
6 Jan.	25°—29°	244	51	66	5 Jan.	40°—46°	300	35	100
13 Jan.	26°—32°	532	139	129	12 Jan.	41°—49°	273	37	87
20 Jan.	24°—30°	637	145	141	19 Jan.	48°—53°	313	29	113
27 Jan.	19°—27°	543	143	128	26 Jan.	47°—52°	257	20	96
3 Feb.	25°—37°	867	239	153	2 Feb.	41°—49°	328	32	110
Total	23°—29°.4	2,823	717	617	Total	43°.5—50°.1	1,471	153	506

From hence it appears, Firſt, that old perſons are affected by the cold much ſooner than children; for in the very firſt week of 1795, the proportion they bear to the whole number

of

of deaths is very nearly twice as great as in the ſucceeding year. Secondly, that while the mortality of the aged was five times greater in one year than in the other, the number of infants dying in the firſt year exceeded thoſe in the ſecond by only one-fifth part. So that the ratio of their reſpective increaſe was as five-and-twenty to one *(q)*.

It may be thought ſatisfactory to add, that the different mortality in the two years from which this compariſon is drawn, cannot be accounted for from any accidental fluctuation of the number of people reſident in London, nor from any irregularity in the bills themſelves. On either of theſe ſuppoſitions, the chriſtenings muſt have undergone a correſponding riſe and fall; but they, during the ſame five weeks, neither exceeded their uſual number in the one caſe, nor fell ſhort of it in the other. In 1795, they amounted in this time to 1,622; and in 1796, to 1,650.

4. The number of deaths by palſies and apoplexies is in this country always greateſt in winter.

This is probably becauſe it is a diſeaſe of old age, and is conſequently increaſed, and diminiſhed, by the ſame cauſes, which influence the general mortality at that time of life. At Marſeilles, not only the whole number of deaths, but thoſe alſo

(q) Some further account of the effects of cold may be ſeen in the Philoſophical Tranſactions for the year 1796, p. 279.

alſo occaſioned by apoplexies and palſies, are greateſt in the ſummer *(r)*.

5. Consumptive people are of courſe ſufferers by cold; and though they are not ſo ſoon affected from this cauſe as the aſthmatic and aged, yet their numbers in the bills are always greateſt in the cold months.

6. However the number of bowel complaints have been leſſened within the laſt hundred years, we ſtill find them moſt frequent in September and October.

In all hot countries theſe diſorders are obſerved to be more common, and more violent, than they are with us; and here in England they are moſt prevalent after the hotteſt ſummers. This was the caſe in 1762, and again in 1789, 1790, and 1800. The time of year alſo when they principally occur in all climates, concurs to indicate ſome connexion ſubſiſting between them and the ſtate of the atmoſphere. But what this is; whether the heat act thus upon the human body by occaſioning inflammation, or relaxation, whether by profuſe, or by morbid ſecretions, or by what other means, I confeſs myſelf unable to explain; notwithſtanding the many pleaſant theories about the nature of the bile, with which the books on Weſt Indian diſeaſes in particular are filled.

7. The remaining diſeaſes, of which an account has been taken in the Table, ſeem to have no certain increaſe or decreaſe.

(r) Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Med. 1777.

creaſe. The meaſles and ſmall pox are exceedingly various, and without any apparent relation to the temperature, moiſture, or other ſenſible qualities of the ſeaſons. The ſame is in general true of fevers, with this exception, that in long and ſevere winters they are certainly more numerous, for reaſons which have been explained elſewhere *(s)*. Many poor families at ſuch times being reduced to the neceſſity of ſhutting themſelves up, perhaps ſeveral together, in a ſmall room, where they can afford to burn little or no fire, and where their beſt defence againſt the rigor of the ſeaſon is to preclude as much as poſſible all acceſs to the external air.

CONVULSIONS are ſo much made up of children's deaths, that they follow the ſame courſe which has been obſerved to take place under that article *(t)*.

FROM the weekly table of mortality we are enabled to correct ſome popular errors, which are very generally prevalent. One of theſe is, that there is ſomething peculiarly wholeſome in a ſharp froſt *(u)* ; another, that wet weather is noxious to the human body, and in particular that it is productive

(s) Medical Tranſactions, Vol. III. Obſervations on the Jail Fever, by John Hunter, M. D.

(t) "Preſque tous les enfants qui meurent avant l'age d'un an, et même de deux, meurent avec des convulſions; l'on dit qu'ils ſont morts des convulſions, et l'on a en partie raiſon," &c. Tiſſot, Avis au Peuple.

(u) Agreeable to this is the proverb, that "A green winter makes a fat churchyard." See Ray's Proverbs.

ductive of putrid diſeaſes *(x)*. After what has been ſtated above, and what may be ſeen more at large in the Philoſophical Tranſactions for the year 1796, there need not many arguments to diſprove the firſt of theſe opinions. The year 1797 affords a very favourable opportunity of aſcertaining that the other is equally unfounded. That year, from the middle of May, was one of the wetteſt ever remembered; yet ſo far was this from rendering it prejudicial, much leſs peſtilential, that whether we attend to the united ſum of the deaths, or to the particular articles of which it is compoſed, we ſhall find reaſon to believe it was in every reſpect a healthy year. The ſame was obſerved alſo during the American war among the ſoldiers encamped at Coxheath in Kent, and it has occaſionally been noticed at other times *(y)*. The miſtake has in both caſes probably originated from the known influence of heat and moiſture in promoting putrefaction, and they are not

(x) το μεν ὁλον οἱ αυχμοι των επομβριων εισιν ὑγιεινοτεροι. Hippocr. Aph. ſect. 3. 15. Νοσηματα δε εν τησιν επομβρησιν ὡς τα πολλα γινεται πυρετοι τε μακροι, και κοιλιης ῥυσιες, και σηπεδονες, &c. Ib. 16. Thus Hoffman in his Medicina Rationalis, "Aëri in-"ſalubritas, et ad ingignendos putridos morbos aptituto, inducitur ex crebra ac "diuturna aquarum inundatione." 4to. Vol. IV. p. 262. Many other authorities might be produced to the ſame purpoſe.

(y) Dr. Cuming of Dorcheſter, in a letter addreſſed to Dr. Fothergill upon the ſubject of the influenza in 1775, has theſe words: "The autumn here was "very wet, as the quantity of rain that fell here during the months of Auguſt, "September, October, and November, was exactly fourteen inches and twenty-"ſeven hundredth parts. This circumſtance, joined to the mild temperature of "the air, made me expect diſeaſes of a putrid claſs, but in this I was happily diſ-"appointed." Med. Obſ. and Enq. Vol. VI.

not the only inſtances of people being miſled by a name. But the cook and the chemiſt ſhould be informed, that arguments drawn from a kitchen or a laboratory muſt not be too confidently transferred to the operations of a living body.

THERE is reaſon to think that another idea has been adopted by many people upon not much better grounds than the former. For it has been imagined, that neither heat, nor cold, are in themſelves pernicious, but that it is the rapid tranſitions from one to the other which are alone to be dreaded (z). If this opinion carry with it an appearance of probability, ſuch facts at leaſt as are afforded by the bills of mortality at the end of the year 1796 and beginning of 1797 do in no wiſe correſpond with it. The great and ſudden changes of temperature at that period are too recent to be forgotten. Before the middle of December 1796 it froze hard for ſeveral days, and preſently after thawed again: Chriſtmas morning will long be memorable for the greateſt cold perhaps ever experienced in England, Fahrenheit's thermometer in London ſtanding below zero; but in leſs than a week the ſame thermometer was above 50°. The month of January following contniued to exhibit frequent and very uncommon variations of heat and cold; yet the mortality all this time did not exceed its uſual limits.

THE ſame opinion has been very commonly applied to the breaking up of a long froſt; people in general being more apprehenſive of bad conſequences from the ſucceeding thaw,

(z) αἱ μεταβολαι των ὡρεων μαλιστα τικτουσι νοσηματα. Hippocr. Aph. 3, 1.

thaw, than from the cold itſelf. But this admits of a ſimilar anſwer to the former. For the froſt in the beginning of the year 1795 ended with the month of February, though the weather continued indeed to be colder than uſual throughout the March following. We need only turn our eyes to the weekly table, to ſee how accurately this correſponds with the decreaſe of the mortality.

The annexed extract from the bills of mortality for the year 1740, ſhews that the ſame effects took place likewiſe during the hard froſt which is known to have ſet in the 24th of December 1739 (old ſtyle) and to have continued till the 16th of February 1740. In this caſe alſo, as in the former, the ſucceeding ſpring was cold and backward.

Week ending	Whole No of Deaths.	Aged above 60.
1 Jan.	543	95
8 Jan.	714	120
15 Jan.	777	163
22 Jan.	691	138
29 Jan.	728	136
5 Feb.	813	174
12 Feb.	780	170
19 Feb.	794	160
26 Feb.	771	146
4 Mar.	767	118
11 Mar.	591	104
18 Mar.	754	120
25 Mar.	620	95

Before we take leave of this ſubject, it ſhould be noticed, that the numbers given in by the pariſh clerks in the month of December, are leſs to be depended upon, than in any other part of the year. For, the yearly account being made up to the middle of that month, it frequently happens that pariſhes, which have neglected to make any returns for many weeks together, give in at that time the ſum of the baptiſms and burials ſince their laſt report *(a)*. And as if the diſcharge of this debt entitled them to contract new ones, ſimilar omiſſions are more common in the two or three weeks immediately following, than at any other period.

Some judgment may be formed of theſe inaccuracies, by compariſon with the weekly chriſtenings. For whenever the burials ſuffer any ſudden increaſe, or diminution, if the baptiſms at the ſame time undergo a correſponding change, threre will be reaſon to attribute both rather to the irregularity of the pariſh clerks reports, than to any real alteration in the health of the people.

(a) On the 13th of Dec. 1796, the pariſh of St. George in Middleſex gave in the numbers for the whole year, amounting to 532.

PART II.

OF THE PLAGUE.

A TABLE,

Shewing how many died Weekly, as well of all Diſeaſes, as of the PLAGUE, in the Years 1593, 1603, 1625, 1636, and 1665.

From the Bills of Mortality.

	1593.		1603.		1625.		1636.		1665.		
	Total.	Plague.	Total.	Plague.	Total.	Plague.	Total.	Plague.		Total.	Plague.
June 2.	410	62	114	30	395	69	339	77	May 30.	399	17
June 9.	441	81	131	43	434	91	345	87	June 6.	405	43
June 16.	339	99	144	59	510	161	381	103	June 13.	558	112
June 23.	401	108	182	72	640	239	304	79	June 20.	611	168
June 30.	850	118	267	158	942	390	352	104	June 27.	684	267
July 7.	1440	927	445	263	1222	593	215	81	July 4.	1006	470
July 14.	1510	893	612	424	1781	1004	372	104	July 11.	1268	727
July 21.	1491	258	1186	917	2850	1819	365	120	July 18.	1761	1089
July 28.	1507	852	1728	1396	3583	2471	423	151	July 25.	2785	1843
Aug. 4.	1503	983	2256	1922	4517	3659	491	206	Aug. 1.	3014	2010
Aug. 11.	1550	797	2077	1745	4855	4115	538	283	Aug. 8.	4030	2817
Aug. 18.	1532	651	3054	2713	5205	4463	638	321	Aug. 15.	5319	3880
Aug. 25.	1508	449	2853	2539	4841	4218	787	429	Aug. 22.	5568	4237
Sept. 1.	1490	507	3385	3035	3897	3344	1011	638	Aug. 29.	7496	6102
Sept. 8.	1210	563	3078	2724	3157	2550	1069	650	Sept. 5.	8452	6988
Sept. 15.	621	451	3129	2818	2148	1672	1306	865	Sept. 12.	7690	6544
Sept. 22.	629	349	2456	2195	1994	1551	1229	775	Sept. 19.	8297	7165
Sept. 29.	450	330	1961	1732	1236	852	1403	928	Sept. 26.	6460	5533
Oct. 6.	408	327	1831	1641	833	538	1405	921	Oct. 3.	5720	4929
Oct. 13.	422	323	1312	1149	815	511	1302	792	Oct. 10.	5068	4327
Oct. 20.	330	308	766	642	651	331	1002	555	Oct. 17.	3219	2665
Oct. 27.	320	302	625	508	375	134	900	458	Oct. 24.	1806	1421
Nov. 3.	310	301	737	594	357	89	1300	838	Oct. 31.	1388	1031
Nov. 10.	309	209	545	442	319	92	1104	715	Nov. 7.	1787	1414
Nov. 17.	301	107	384	251	274	48	950	573	Nov. 14.	1359	1050
Nov. 24.	321	93	198	105	231	27	857	476	Nov. 21.	905	652
Dec. 1.	349	94	223	102	190	15	614	321	Nov. 28.	544	333
Dec. 8.	331	86	163	55	181	15	459	167	Dec. 5.	428	210
Dec. 15.	329	71	200	96	168	6	385	85	Dec. 12.	442	243
Dec. 22.	386	39	168	74	157	1			Dec. 19.	525	281
Whole Year	25886	11503	37294	30561	51578	35403	23359	10400	Whole Year	97306	68596

THE

THE foregoing Table exhibits a melancholy, yet a very imperfect picture of what the people of this country formerly ſuffered from the Plague *(a)*. It is a ſubject which muſt ever be intereſting to humanity, to trace out, as far as we are able, by what means it has happened, that a diſeaſe which was once ſo very deſtructive, ſhould totally have diſappeared for now conſiderably more than an hundred years. For this purpoſe, it will be neceſſary to enter at ſome length into the hiſtory of the circumſtances attending its progreſs, and to look back if poſſible to its true origin.

MANY difficulties occur in the proſecution of this enquiry. Each country is unwilling to acknowledge herſelf the parent of ſuch an odious offspring. From this part of Europe we are taught to look to Turkey for the ſource of this evil. Enquire there, and you are referred either to ſome vague report from the parts about the Caſpian ſea, or more commonly to Egypt. The Egyptians, on the other hand, will tell you they receive it ſometimes from Turkey, but uſually from Lybia, or Ethiopia; in ſhort, from places where there is nobody to contradict ſuch a malicious report. In this manner Villani, who was at ſome pains to inveſtigate the origin of a great

(a) In the City Remembrancer is collected, from very reſpectable authorities, the beſt hiſtory of that dreadful time. An elegant account of ſimilar miſeries produced from the ſame cauſe in the city of Florence in the year 1348, may be ſeen in the Introduction to the Decamerone of Boccaccio.

a great plague in the fourteenth century, was referred at laſt to China, and was told that it was there occaſioned by the burſting of a great ball of fire attended with an uncommon ſtench.

LEAVING theſe idle ſtories, if we direct our attention to the places where in fact it has prevailed, we ſhall find its head quarters always to have been the naſtieſt parts of dirty, crowded, ill conſtructed, large cities. Thus Grand Cairo, and Conſtantinople, are never long free from it; and thus likewiſe when it has attacked other places, where it is leſs common, its firſt appearance has been among the loweſt of the people. There, as on touchwood, the ſpark is eaſily kindled, and preſently blown into a flame. "Grand Cairo is crowded by a "vaſt number of inhabitants, who for the moſt part live very "poorly and naſtily. The ſtreets are very narrow and cloſe, "and twenty or thirty live in one ſmall houſe. It is ſituated "in a ſandy plain at the foot of a mountain, which by keeping off the winds, which would refreſh the air, makes the "heats very ſtifling. Through the midſt of it paſſes a great "canal, which is filled with water at the overflowing of the "Nile, and after the river is decreaſed, is gradually dried up. "Into this, people throw all manner of filth, carrion, &c. "ſo that the ſtench which riſes from this and the mud together is inſufferably offenſive. In this poſture of things, the "plague every year conſtantly preys upon the inhabitants, "and is only ſtopped when the Nile by overflowing waſhes "away this load of filth; the cold winds, which ſet in at

" the ſame time, lending their aſſiſtance by purifying the " air *(a*)*." The plague is very generally obſerved to break out at Conſtantinople in that part of the city which is low and marſhy *(b)*. And there, as every where elſe, " nitidæ " ædes haud æque facile inficiuntur, ac ſordidæ *(c)*." Blackmore takes notice that the impurity and filth, which accompanied the gallies and ſlaves at Marſeilles, filled the air with offenſive ſmells eaſily perceivable by thoſe that paſſed along the adjoining ſhore: and in 1720, the plague broke out there in a part of the town thronged by the pooreſt people *(d)*. At Aleppo, it always begins in the Keiſarias and Judeda: the former are ſmall huts with few or no windows, which ſtand crowded together, and are inhabited by the loweſt Arabs; the latter are the dwellings of the inferior Jews, " whoſe " houſes are ſmall; or if large, the different apartments are " crowded with different families; many of them are more " than a ſtory below the level of the ſtreet, in a condition " half ruinous, dirty in the extreme, damp, and badly aired; " and the wretched inhabitants are clothed with rags *(e)*." In Holſtein, in 1764, it firſt appeared at Renſburg among the priſoners, " propter delicta ad operas publicas damnatos *(f)*. At Moſcow, it broke out " in domo ampliſſima, quæ inſer-

" viebat,

(a)* The City Remembrancer. This account is confirmed by Alpinus, Pococke, Irwin, and a variety of other teſtimonies.

(b) The City Remembrancer.

(c) Timone on the Plague at Conſtantinople, Phil. Tranſ. abr. Vol. VII.

(d) City Remembrancer. *(e)* Ruſſel on the Plague.

(f) Waldſchmidt de ſingularibus quibuſdam Peſtis Holſatiæ. Haller Diſputat. Vol. V.

" viebat conficiendis pannis pro militibus; tria hominum " millia utriuſq; ſexus huic labori operabantur, quorum tertia " pars circiter pauperrima in inferiore parte domus habita- " bat *(g)*. In London, the plagues of 1626, and 1636, broke out at Whitechapel, a part of the town which abounded with poor, and with ſlaughter-houſes: that of 1665 is ſaid to have broke out firſt at St. Giles's; and there it would probably again break out, if ever we ſhould ſuffer ſuch another calamity.

THERE can be no doubt that the plague is infectious; and it would be eaſy to point out the way in which it may be introduced by foreign contagion. Indeed the correſpondence of the dates of our laſt great plagues, with thoſe of Amſterdam, affords a ſtrong preſumption, either that one of theſe cities muſt have received the infection from the other, or that both of them received it from ſome common ſource. Yet it ſhould be remembered, that it is by no means ſo eaſily imported, as the fears of moſt people incline them to believe. Nor, becauſe a perſon labouring under the plague may communicate the poiſon to goods, and ſuch goods afterwards to other people, does it by any means follow that either of theſe effects muſt neceſſarily take place. We have many reaſons to perſuade us to the contrary. For if a ſingle bale of cotton be ſuppoſed capable of introducing the diſeaſe; who could eſcape from the infection, which had been harboured in the furniture of a whole city during the continuance of a plague? Nevertheleſs we

(g) Mertens, Obſervationes Medicæ de Peſte Moſcuenſe.

we read that when the plague was in Italy, the Neapolitans uſed no artifice to purify either their goods, or houſes; yet the diſeaſe ceaſed among them as entirely as in the beſt regulated towns. So Proſper Alpinus, ſpeaking of the plague in Egypt, ſays, "Junio vero menſe, qualiſcunque et quanta-
"cunque ſit ibi peſtilentia, ſole primam cancri partem ingre-
"diente, omnino tollitur, quod multis plane divinum eſſe non
"immerito videtur. Sed quod etiam valde mirabile creditur,
"omnia ſupellectilia peſtifero contagio infecta tunc nullum
"contagii effectum in eam gentem edunt." In Syria alſo, where it's returns are very frequent, yet from September to March it is ſcarcely ever ſeen: and Dr. Ruſſel tells us that in the winter time, when infected perſons have come to places about Aleppo, ſome of whom have died in the families where they lodged, the diſtemper by ſuch means was not propagated. Diemerbroeck likewiſe obſerves, that when the plague has been excited out of its proper ſeaſon, it has not ſpread. The ſame thing is confirmed by the foregoing Table, and I believe by the hiſtories of the plague in all large towns of Europe. For its chief force has always been felt in the ſummer and autumn *. Afterwards, "le carnage diminue, la
"maladie

* May not this influence of the ſeaſons on diſeaſes, be the real cauſe of the ſtrange and contradictory accounts we have received concerning the cure of the Yellow Fever in the Weſt Indies? Accounts which only agree in this, that the moſt obvious methods of treatment are wrong. It is reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that phyſicians there would firſt make trial of the remedies moſt approved in ſimilar diſeaſes in other places; yet we find they all failed. And why? Becauſe the epidemic was then at it's height. But afterwards, all their different modes of practice as univerſally ſucceeded. For when the diſeaſe began to decline, the mortality of it-

 ſelf

" maladie devient plus traitable, les accidens ſont moins " preſſans, & le plus grand nombre de ceux qui en ſont " atteints, echappe au danger *(g*)*."

But a proper ſtate of the air is not the only circumſtance neceſſary to promote the operation of contagion. During the epidemical conſtitution, it is highly probable, that good diet, and good ſpirits, and cleanlineſs, and freſh air, and proper clothing, and exerciſe, may all contribute to render the body leſs ſuſceptible of diſeaſe. The ſeeds of which, like thoſe of vegetables, will then only ſpring up and thrive, when they fall upon a ſoil convenient for their growth. " In ſolam " plebem, ut ſemper fere accidit, ſæviit peſtis Moſcuenſis; " inter nobiles, et ditiores mercatores, neminem fere, præter " paucos valde incautos invaſit *(h)*." Likewiſe at Marſeilles, " la peſte fit ſes plus grands ravages dans les quartiers " habités par le menu peuple *(i)*." The ſame has been found to be true univerſally.

Every medical man will readily acknowledge the difficulty of aſcertaining the true cauſe of almoſt any diſeaſe; and with reſpect to that under conſideration, the difficulty is on

ſelf became much leſs; and of thoſe who died, moſt lingered on for a conſiderable time beyond their uſual period. Which exactly correſponds with what has at all times been reported of the plague, under every variation of medicine, and climate.

(g)* Fournier, Obſ. ſur la Peſte.

(h) Mertens, de Peſte Moſcuenſe.

(i) Traité de la Peſte.

on many accounts much increaſed. For intereſt, the moſt powerful of all motives in a commercial ſtate, interferes in oppoſing our enquiries. The early riſings of the plague are always endeavoured to be concealed, in order to prevent that interruption of trade, which neceſſarily takes place, where it is publicly avowed. " La peſte n'eſt reconnue dans une ville, " que lorſque ſes ravages ſe multiplient. D'abord elle n'en- " leve que peu de malades ; leur petit nombre n'attire pas l'at- " tention ; les doutes occupent quelque tems l'eſprit : le mal " eſt-il averé, des raiſons d'interêt le font deguiſer. C'eſt ainſi " que la maladie fait des progrés ſecrets, elle ſe gliſſe," &c. *(k)*.

Now, that the plague was ever actually bred in London, it might be odious to aſſert, and would be impoſſible to prove. But to any one who reflects upon it's frequent returns in this capital until the latter end of the ſeventeenth century, and it's total abſence ſince, notwithſtanding the great increaſe of our trade by which it was ſuppoſed to be imported ; it muſt I think appear probable, that if it's origin were derived from foreign contagion, at leaſt it's propagation ought in great meaſure to be attributed to ſome prediſpoſition of the town in thoſe days, which has ſince been corrected. Any improvements which our quarantine laws may have undergone, are by no means adequate to ſuch an effect *(l)*. But there have not been wanting many more powerful cauſes.

In

(k) Traité de la Peſte.

(l) See this matter diſcuſſed in Mr. Howard's Obſervations on Lazarettos, and in Eton's Survey of the Turkiſh Empire.

In 1389, the ſtreets of London were ſo abuſed with common lay-ſtalls, to the great annoyance of the citizens, that a proclamation was made throughout the city by authority of parliament, "that no perſon whatever ſhould preſume to lay "any dung, guts, garbage, offals, or any other ordure, in any "ſtreet, ditch, river, &c. upon penalty of twenty pounds, to "be recovered by an information in chancery." In 1569, when the plague was in London, orders were iſſued "to "warne all inhabitants againſt their houſes, to keep channels "clear from fylth (by onlie turning yt aſyde) that the water "may have paſſage." And Eraſmus, in a letter to Franciſcus, Cardinal Wolſey's phyſician, aſcribes the ſweating ſickneſs, which was a ſpecies of plague *(m)*, and the plague, from which England was hardly ever free, in great meaſure to the incommodious form, and bad expoſition of their houſes, to the filthineſs of the ſtreets, and to the ſluttiſhneſs within doors. "Conclavia ſola fere ſtrata ſunt argilla, tum ſcirpis paluſtri-"bus *(n)*, qui ſubinde ſic renovantur, ut fundamentum maneat "aliquoties annos viginti ſub ſe fovens ſputa, vomitus, mic-"tum

(m) The years in which the ſweating ſickneſs more particularly prevailed, were 1485, 1506, 1517, 1528, 1551. Dr. Caius muſt probably have been miſtaken when he mentions in his treatiſe, "De Ephemera Britannica," one circumſtance entirely contrary to what has occurred in any plague of which I have yet ſeen an account, "Nam miſeram illam et jejunam plebeculam belli paciſque "laboribus duratam, aut omnino non attigit, aut ſine gravi noxa vel peri-"culo."

(n) Hentzner, ſpeaking of the preſence chamber at Greenwich palace in the time of Queen Elizabeth, obſerves that "the floor, after the Engliſh faſhion,

" tum canum et hominum, projectam cereviſiam, et piſcium " reliquias, aliaſque ſordes non nominandas." This picture of the naſtineſs of the town will be yet heightened by conſidering the ſtate of the buildings before the great fire of 1666. The ſtreets were narrow, and crooked, and many of them unpaved; the houſes were built of wood, and lofty; they were dark, irregular, and ill contrived; with each ſtory hanging over the one below, ſo as almoſt to meet at top, and thereby preclude as much as poſſible all acceſs to a purer air; they were beſides furniſhed with enormous ſigns, which by hanging into the middle of the ſtreet, contributed not a little to prevent all ventilation below. The ſewers at the ſame time were in a very neglected ſtate, and the drains all ran above ground. Add to which, the metropolis, which now enjoys ſuch a plentiful ſupply of water laid into every houſe, had till many years ſubſequent to the bringing in of the New River in 1613, been but ſcantily furniſhed with this firſt of luxuries *(o)*.

We are enabled to form ſome judgment of the effect of this ſtate of things upon the health of the inhabitants, by conſidering

" was ſtrewed with hay." The ſame cuſtom is alluded to by Shakſpeare, and Ben Johnſon; alſo by Dryden, in his Tale of the Cock and the Fox:

" Her parlour window ſtuck with herbs around,
" Of ſav'ry ſmell; and *ruſhes ſtrew'd the ground.*"

It is probable that in earlier times this had not been peculiar to England. Boccaccio, deſcribing the villa to which the perſonages of his Decamerone retired from the plague at Florence, in the middle of the fourteenth century, ſays, " Il " quale tutto ſpazzato, e nelle camere i letti fatti, ed ogni coſa de fiori, quali " nella ſtagione ſi potevano avere, piena, e *di giunchi giunchata*," &c.

(o) This account of London is chiefly taken from Maitland's Hiſtory.

ſidering the nature of the diſeaſes which were then prevalent. Burnet ſays, in his Hiſtory of the Reformation, that in the laſt year of Queen Mary's reign, " Intermitting fevers were " ſo univerſal and contagious, that they raged liked a plague." Have we any idea of ſuch a thing at preſent? Morton aſſures us, that remittent fevers were very deſtructive for ſeveral years before the great plague of 1665. In 1658 Oliver Cromwell died of this fever: and he tells us his own father alſo died of it, and that himſelf and his whole family were infected, " matrem pientiſſimam, fratres, ſorores, ſervos, ancillas, " nutrices conductitias, quotquot erant intra eoſdem nobiſ- " cum parietes, ac fere omnes ejuſdum, ac vicinorum pago- " rum incolas, hoc veneno infectos, et decumbentes vidi." He proceeds to ſay, that the cold weather afterwards checked this diſeaſe; yet the ſeeds of it ſeem to have been by no means deſtroyed: they ſtill continued to ſhew themſelves under a different form; " durante enim bruma, intermittentes, quar- " tanas, tertianas, quotidianas, ab ejuſdem veneni mitiore " gradu oriundas, fere æque epidemias videre erat, ac in au- " tumno συνεχεας, ſeu remittentes; neque mehercule ſæviente " gelu penitus defecerunt iſtæ febres continentes. Atque " equidem hancce febrem hoc pacto ſub typo συνεχε©, præ- " ſertim ſimplicis et legitimæ, quotidianæ ſcilicet, vel ter- " tianæ, maxime vulgarem fuiſſe, et tempore autumnali plus " minus epidemiam, uſque ad annum 1664 obſervavi." He informs us likewiſe, that in the two years immediately ſucceeding the great plague, dyſenteries were very frequent; ſo that in the autumn of 1667 " civitas fere univerſa hoc

" morbo

" morbo correpta videbatur, atque ſingulis ſeptimanis 345
" plus minus fluxu et torminibus confecti fatis cedebant."
Afterwards we are told the ſame diſeaſe returned every autumn attended by nearly the ſame mortality. Major Graunt, whoſe Obſervations on the Bills of Mortality were publiſhed in 1662, ſays, " The diſeaſes which, beſides the plague, " make years unhealthful in this city, are, ſpotted fevers, " ſmall pox, dyſentery, called by ſome the plague in the " guts; and the unhealthful ſeaſon is autumn." From Sydenham we learn that from 1661 to 1664 agues were epidemical in London, and again from 1677 to 1685. This may be looked upon as the ſlighteſt of the effects of putrid moiſture: and even to this we are at preſent almoſt ſtrangers, unleſs among thoſe who come from the marſhy parts of the country. The ſame author informs us the dyſentery was epidemical four years together; and the bills of mortality of that time ſhew the ſum of the deaths under the titles of bloody flux and griping in the guts, which muſt both of them be conſidered as dyſentery, never to have been leſs than 1,000 in a year, and ſome years to have exceeded 4,000; and for five-and-twenty years ſucceſſively, from 1667 to 1692, the number every year amounts to above 2,000. At the ſame time we are told that in the jail of Newgate a contagious fever uſed to break out annually in hot weather; and that the ſame was true of moſt jails in Europe *(p)*. Beſides the well-known black aſſize at Oxford in 1577, there happened a ſecond black aſſize only two years after, from which upwards

(p) The City Remembrancer.

wards of 500 perſons died. And Dr. Plott ſuggeſts as a probable reaſon for the unhealthineſs of Oxford at that time, that the city was very much thronged, and all manner of cattle uſed to be killed within the walls, and their dung and offals were ſuffered to lie in the public ſtreets. The true ſcurvy, which is now unknown in London, is alſo juſtly attributed, along with other cauſes, to a putrid atmoſphere. And it is of this that Hodges ſpeaks in his account of the plague of 1665, when he tells us, "epidemica multo aute "apud nos affectio ſcorbutica." So Hentzner, in his Travels at the time of Queen Elizabeth, obſerves that the Engliſh "are often moleſted with the ſcurvy." Willis, who wrote a particular treatiſe on this ſubject, deſcribes it in all its characteriſtic features as being very common: "ægritudo multis in "locis (Angliæ) endemia, et ubique fere ſporadica." Charleton alſo declares, "ſcorbutus in his regionibus ſeptentrionali-"bus eſt morbus endemius." Many other authorities might be produced to the ſame effect.

Examine then how far the plague kept pace with theſe other diſeaſes. In the early part of our hiſtory, a great number of years are ſpecified as plague years *(q)*. In the fourteenth, fifteenth, and ſixteenth centuries, there ſcarcely paſſed ten years without a conſiderable plague. The greateſt plague years of the ſeventeenth century were 1603, 1625, 1636, and 1665; in which the mortality is reported to have been

(q) See the City Remembrancer.

been reſpectively 36,000, 35,000, 10,000, and 68,000 *(q*)*. But we muſt not imagine the diſeaſe was accidentally imported juſt at thoſe periods, and that at other times London was perfectly free. The ſame bills of mortality, and the teſtimony of all hiſtory, poſitively contradict ſuch an opinion. In 1603, the deaths by the plague amounted, as we have ſaid, to 36,000; in 1604 there died by the ſame diſeaſe 900; in 1605, 400; in 1606, 2,000; in 1607, 2,000; in 1608, 2,000; in 1609, 4,000; in 1610, 1,800; and from 1640 to 1648, the number was every year above 1,000. I would not be underſtood to inſinuate that the mortality was always ſo great, as in the years here mentioned. There might paſs ſome years without any perſon dying of the diſeaſe. I am diſpoſed to believe however, that the number of theſe muſt have been much fewer than moſt people are aware of. Maitland, in his Hiſtory of London, declares that for five-and-twenty years before the fire of 1666, the city had never been clear from the plague. And from the year 1603, when the regiſter begins, till 1670, the bills of mortality exhibit only three years entirely free: though it muſt be confeſſed the mortality in ſome others is ſo ſmall as to leave room to doubt whether the cauſe of thoſe deaths may not have been miſrepreſented.

THE

(q)* There is reaſon to believe that theſe numbers, great as they appear, are conſiderably under the truth. Lord Clarendon ſays, that "many, who could "compute very well, concluded there were in truth double that number who "died." Hiſt. of his own Life.

THE plague therefore, as well as other putrid diſeaſes, prevailed in a very high degree in times when we know the condition of the town to have been moſt offenſively dirty. And it is pleaſing to obſerve how the health of the inhabitants returned, in proportion as this cauſe of their complaints was removed. In September 1666, while the plague was yet unſubdued, happened the memorable fire of London. It raged for ſeveral days together, till it had conſumed every thing from the Tower to Temple Bar. This, which was at firſt looked upon as a ſcourge from Heaven, has ſince proved indeed a moſt gracious bleſſing. Great pains were taken, and much encouragement was given by the king, to obtain proper plans for rebuilding the city. The ſtreets were widened; the ſign-poſts ordered to be "fixed againſt the balconies, or ſome "other convenient part of the houſe," inſtead of hanging acroſs; directions were preſcribed for levelling the ſtreets "for the more eaſy and convenient current and conveyance "of the waters;" proper places were appointed for common lay-ſtalls; ceſt-pools were ordered to be "made and conti-"nued to every grate of the common ſewer, to receive the "ſand or gravel coming to the ſame, ſo to prevent the "choaking thereof;" orders were iſſued reſpecting the "fel-"lowſhip of carmen, who ſhould ſweep and cleanſe the "ſtreets, lanes, and common paſſages, from dung, ſoil, filth, "and dirt;" all perſons were forbid to lay in the ſtreets "any dogs, cats, inwards of beaſts, cleaves of beaſts' feet, "bones, horns, dregs or droſs of ale or beer, or any noiſome "thing, upon pain of ten ſhillings for every offence:" it was ordered

ordered alſo, " that no man ſhall feed any kine, goats, hogs, or " poultry in the open ſtreets ;" " that no man ſhall caſt into " ditches or ſewers, grates or gullets, of the city, any manner " of carrion, ſtinking fleſh, rotten oranges or onions, rubbiſh, " dung, &c. &c." that no man " ſhall make or continue " any widraughts, ſeat or ſeats for houſes of eaſement over, " or drains, into any common ſewers, &c." and other regulations were enforced to the ſame effect *(r)* ; by which means many of the former inconveniences and nuiſances were remedied. So that in a few years the new town roſe up like a phœnix from the fire with increaſed vigour and beauty. Nor did the benefit end there ; for it produced in the country a ſpirit of improvement which had till then been unknown, but which has never ſince ceaſed to exert itſelf.

Let us now again turn our eyes towards the ſtate of diſeaſes. Morton relates of the autumnal fever : " Febris " συνεχης genuina ab anno 1665 (in quo peſtis, veneno ad gra- " dum ſumme deleterium provecto, caput ſuum extulit) fere " per biennium profligata diſparuit, nec amplius recedente " ſole graſſata eſt ut ante." And again : " Venenum febri- " ferum anno 1673 quadantenus miteſcere et cicurari vide- " batur, et mitius huc uſque (1692) eſt." And the gradual decreaſe of the dyſentery, which we have ſhewn to have been ſo very deſtructive, though already taken notice of in the former part of this eſſay, is too much to the purpoſe not to be repeated. For taking together the three diſeaſes of bloody

(r) See Maitland's Hiſtory of London.

bloody flux, colic, and gripes, their decline from the beginning of the eighteenth century has been nearly as follows:

From 1700	to 1710	the average is about 1,070 annually.
1710	to 1720	- - - - - - 770
1720	to 1730	- - - - - - 700
1730	to 1740	- - - - - - 350
1740	to 1750	- - - - - - 150
1750	to 1760	- - - - - - 110
1760	to 1770	- - - - - - 80
1770	to 1780	- - - - - - 70
1780	to 1790	- - - - - - 40
1790	to 1800	- - - - - - 20

The ſame bills of mortality, ſo far as they may be truſted in an article confeſſedly liable to great inaccuracy, ſhew the decline of ſcurvy likewiſe to have been very rapid. The firſt twenty bills, that is, from the year 1657 to the year 1677, give an average of ſixty deaths every year under this head; whereas ſince the beginning of the eighteenth century, the number has ſcarcely exceeded five, or ſix. It's decreaſe among our ſailors has been much more remarkable. For I have been informed by one of the phyſicians to the Haſlar hoſpital near Portſmouth, that their wards, which uſed to be crowded with ſcorbutic patients, now do not receive above twenty in the whole year. And in this inſtance nobody can heſitate to attribute the change to the attention that has of late years been paid to the cleanlineſs, ventilation, and diet of our navy. It is probably from a ſimilar attention, that the

number of fevers reported in the bills of mortality, have in the courſe of the laſt fifty years been reduced from 3,000 to 2,000 annually.

But to return to the plague. In 1666, there are reported to have died in London by this diſeaſe 1,998; in the year following, 35; and the year after that, 14; ſince which time the number has never exceeded five; and the laſt year it is mentioned at all in the bills is 1679; notwithſtanding the population, and the trade of London, have been ſo rapidly increaſing from that time to this *(t)*.

It may be worth while to obſerve, that the plague was formerly by no means confined to the metropolis. In 1625, it alſo broke out at Oxford; and moreover ſeized the ſeamen and ſoldiers on board the fleet, and obliged them to relinquiſh the object they were at that time engaged in,

(t) The number of people in London ſeems never to have ſuffered any material diminution in conſequence of the great mortalities which from time to time took place. It appears by the bills of mortality, that in two years afterwards both the chriſtenings and burials, and we may ſuppoſe therefore the inhabitants of London, regained their uſual ſtandard. For, "if there be encouragement for an hundred in London, that is, a way how an hundred may live better than in the country, and if there be void houſing there to receive them, the evacuating of a fourth, or a third part of that number, muſt ſoon be ſupplied out of the country; ſo as the great plague doth not leſſen the inhabitants of the city, but of the country, who in a ſhort time remove themſelves hither, ſo long, until the city, for want of receipt and encouragement, regurgitates and ſends them back." Major Graunt's Obſervations.

in, of intercepting the Spaniſh galeons. In 1665, every town within twenty miles of London was more or leſs infected, and moſt of the principal towns in England, beſides ſome parts of Ireland. In 1391, it was moſt ſeverely felt in Norfolk, and at York; in 1643, it broke out at the ſiege of Reading; in 1645, it was at Leeds; and in 1646, at Newark, Stafford, and Totneſs. About the ſame time it likewiſe occaſioned a great mortality in Ireland. From an expreſſion uſed by Lord Clarendon, in his Hiſtory of the Rebellion, one may form ſome judgment how familiar this diſeaſe muſt formerly have been in Briſtol. He is ſpeaking of the reaſons which induced the Prince of Wales to appoint certain commiſſioners to meet him at Bridgewater rather than at Briſtol in April 1645, and obſerves that "Briſtol was "thought at too great a diſtance from the Weſt, beſides that "the plague began to break out there very much for the "time of year, &c." Yet we find this did not deter the prince from returning thither the very next week.

At the time the plague was ſo deſtructive in England, it ſeems to have raged with equal violence in other parts of Europe; and probably from the ſame cauſe. The hiſtories of thoſe ages are full of the phyſical and political miſeries which prevailed. And in proportion as the nations of Europe have become civilized; and agriculture, with the arts of peace, has been cultivated, this diſorder has gradually diſappeared.

In

In the fifteenth century, at Bourdeaux, " il regné preſque " tous les ans une maladie peſtilentielle, qui força pluſieurs " fois le parlement, pour ſe ſouſtraire à la contagion, de tenir " ſes ſéances dans d'autres lieux de ſon reſſort *(u)*." The following *(u*)* are all of them mentioned as having been plague years at Dreſden; viz. 1504 -5, 1511 -12, 1521, 1535 -36, 1547, 1563 -64, 1571 -72, 1585 -86, 1591 -92, 1607, 1627 -28, 1632 -33 -34 -35 -36 -37. In 1502 the diſeaſe was at Bruſſels; 1511 at Verona; 1525 in Germany; 1531 and 1534 in France; 1539 in Switzerland; 1542 at Breſlaw; 1550 at Baſil; between 1550 and 1553 it ſpread itſelf ſucceſſively over almoſt all the habitable world; 1559 it was in Holland; 1563 it was in Germany, and again in 1566; 1564 in Savoy; 1566 and 1568 at Milan; 1568 at Paris; 1572 at Baſil; 1575 at Milan; 1576 at Venice; 1580 at Marſeilles; 1593 it was in Holland and the Low Countries; 1596 and 1597 in Germany; 1603 it was again in Holland, alſo in 1609, and in the latter year in Denmark; 1618 at Bergen; 1619 in Denmark; 1622 at Amſterdam, where it continued for eight years; 1623 it was at Montpellier; 1625 at Leyden, in Denmark, and in Germany; 1628 it was at Lyons; 1629 and 1630 at Montpellier; 1631 at Dijon; in 1630 it was beſides in Denmark, and at Chriſtiana in Norway, and at Parma, Verona, and other parts of Italy;

(u) Hiſt. de la Soc. Roy. de Med. Vol. I. 188.

(u)* It may be proper to obſerve, that the dates of the plague which are here collected, are none of them inſerted without ſome authority; though it ſeemed unneceſſary to multiply the notes by ſo many diſtinct references.

Italy; from 1635 to 1637 it was in the Netherlands, and the latter year at Prague; in 1649 more than 200,000 perſons are ſaid to have periſhed by this diſeaſe in the ſouthern provinces of Spain; 1649 and 1650 it prevailed at Marſeilles; 1650 it was alſo in Ireland; 1652 at Cracow; 1653 in Poland, and Pruſſia; 1654 at Copenhagen; 1655 at Amſterdam; and in the courſe of the ſame year, and the three following, it was in many places in the ſouth of Europe; 1660 it was in Scotland; 1663 and 1664 at Amſterdam, and Hamburgh; 1668 in Flanders; 1670 in Italy; 1679 at Vienna; 1680 at Leipſic; 1684 in Norway; 1685 at Leghorn. In 1622 the mortality by the plague at Amſterdam (at that time equal to about one-third of London) was 4,000; in 1623, 6,000; in 1624, 12,000; in 1625, 6,800; in 1626, 4,400; in 1627, 4,000; in 1628, 4,500. Felix Platerus, phyſician at Baſil, in Switzerland, about 1580, gives an account of ſeven different peſtilential fevers which afflicted that city in the ſpace of ſeventy years. Thomas Bartholin mentions five that raged in Denmark in his time (1660). And Foreſtus relates that in his time (1570) the plague was frequent at Cologn and Paris; and refers the cauſe to the multitude of the inhabitants, and the naſtineſs of the ſtreets. In the life of Eraſmus we read "ob peſtilentiam multis annis "(Pariſiis) perpetuam, ſingulos annos redeundum erat in "patriam—tandem ubi totum annum ſæviret peſtis, coactus "eſt Lovanium commigrare." By another account Paris is ſaid to have been infected eight times between the years 1480 and 1590: in 1607 two hoſpitals of reſerve, St. Louis

and St. Anne, were erected on purpoſe to receive patients in times of the plague, or other great calamities. They were opened on account of the plague in 1619, 1631, 1638, 1662, and 1668, ſince which that diſeaſe has been unknown there. We are informed that about the ſame time Paris was paved, and the ſtreets were widened, and the city began to be kept cleaner *(w)*. To the ſame purpoſe it is ſaid, in the Hiſtoire de la Societé Royale de Medecine (année 1786, p. 215) " Il " ſuffit de ſe rappeler, à ce ſujet, ce grand nombre d'epide- " mies deſaſtreuſes et peſtilentielles dont parlent nos hiſto- " riens des derniers ſiecles, et qui, n'etant dues qu'à la mal- " propreté des habitations mal äerées et des rues mal pavées, " ont diſparu quand le gouvernement a conſideré que ces " objets ne devoient pas échapper à ſes regards, et meritoient " une part à ſa ſolicitude." In another place we read that the city of Thouloufe " morbis malignis ſæpe vexabatur : ſed " tandem (A. D. 1757) dilatatis urbis plateis et compitis, " purgatis quotannis ſtercoribus, liberoque aëri tranſitu con- " ceſſo, a contagio libera evaſit urbs *(x)*." Of the condition of theſe two cities formerly, we may form ſome judgment by the following quotation from Diemerbroeck : " Fætidiſſi- " mam platearum, cloacarum, et ſterquilinionum illuviem, " ad multorum morborum, et imprimis malignarum febrium " inductionem, ac peſtiferi contagii propagationem, pluri- " mum facere, docet experientia : ſicut de Pariſiorum urbe " teſtatur

(w) Rapport des Commiſſaires chargés par l'Académie de l'examen du projet d'un nouvel Hôtel-Dieu. 1786.

(x) Linnæi Amænitates, Vol. IV.

" teſtatur Palmarius, et Quercetanus de urbe Tholoſana." Likewiſe of Marſeilles, at the time of the laſt plague, we are told, " la ville de Marſeille eſt fort peuplée, & fort reſſerree ; " les maiſons y ſont fort petites, &c. &c. *(y)*.

INDEED moſt towns of any antiquity retain ſome traces of the ſame kind. " The moſt ancient part of Madrid is neareſt " to the river Manzanares, with narrow and contracted " ſtreets, crooked lanes, and blind allies, like thoſe ſtill " viſible in London, but more eſpecially in Paris, where no " extenſive conflagration hath conſumed the rude monuments " of art erected by the remote progenitors who inhabited the " infant city *(y*)*." Some cities of Europe, which from natural or political cauſes have been backward in adopting the improvements of modern times, yet continue to exhibit a more lively picture of former manners. " Till within the " laſt two years Cracow was not wholly paved ; and no- " thing can be ſo execrable as the preſent paving, which " ſcarcely deſerves the name. There is not a ſingle lamp " in the place. No precautions are uſed to cleanſe the ſtreets ; " which of courſe become infectious in ſummer, and almoſt " impaſſable in winter *(aa)*."

IT cannot be ſuppoſed that this diſeaſe has worn itſelf out, as ſeems to have been the caſe with ſome others. For it continues

(y) Traité de la Peſte. *(y*)* Townſend's Spain.

(aa) Wraxall's Memoirs of the Courts of Berlin, Dreſden, Warſaw, and Vienna, in the years 1777, 1778, and 1779.

continues ſtill in Turkey at leaſt as frequent as at any former period; and even in the eighteenth century has been ſeverely felt in Poland, Hungary, and Pruſſia, between 1702 and 1709; in Germany, Livonia, and Sweden, 1710; in Holland, 1711; at Vienna, 1712, 1713, 1714; at Hamburgh alſo, 1714; in the South of France, 1720; in Sicily, 1743; in Hungary, 1756; in Denmark, 1764; in Ruſſia, 1771; and perhaps at Cadiz, 1800 *.

It is obſervable, that at it's firſt breaking out, the diſeaſe has never been known to be the plague. It has, moreover, very generally been preceded by a ſevere putrid fever. This at leaſt we know to have been the caſe at Nimeguen *(z)* in 1635, in London *(a)* 1665, at Marſeilles *(b)* 1720, in Holſtein *(c)* 1764, at Moſcow *(d)* 1771. "Les medicins de "Livourne conſultés ſur la nature de la maladie qui deſolait "l'equipage

* I know not how far ſome epidemical fevers of America deſerve to be ranked under this head. Such have been deſcribed in Philadelphia 1699, 1741, 1747, 1762; in Virginia 1737, 1741, and 1778; four different times at Charleſtown in South Carolina, viz. 1732, 1739, 1745, 1748; in New York 1791; in Philadelphia 1793; in Baltimore 1794; at Norfolk in Virginia 1795; in New York 1795, 1796, and 1798; and the latter year likewiſe very ſeverely in Philadelphia; and again in Baltimore 1800. The mortality, in proportion to the number of inhabitants, appears in ſome inſtances to have equalled what the ſevereſt plagues have occaſioned in Europe; and there is reaſon to believe the ſame want of attention to cleanlineſs, and pure air, may have been a principal cauſe of both diſeaſes. See *A ſhort Account of the Plague in Philadelphia, by M. Carey*, 1794. Alſo *Weld's Travels in America*.

(z) Diemerbroeck. *(a)* Sydenham.
(b) Traité de la Peſte. *(c)* Waldſchmidt. *(d)* Mertens.

" l'equipage du vaiſſeau auquel on attribua la naiſſance de la " peſte de Marſeille, le regarderent unanimement comme une " ſimple fievre maligne *(e)*. Of this preceding fever at Marſeilles it is ſaid, " on obſerva dans le cours de ces fievres, des " bubons, des charbons, des parotides : des morts ſubites " avoient deja annoncé quelque changement ſingulier dans les " corps, ou dans les ſaiſons." Waldſchmidt, who had before obſerved, " ſolent plerumque peſtis contagium præcedere " morbi alii, febres mali moris, et peſtilentiales," tells us, theſe diſeaſes then deſerve the name of plague, " quando " plures communi aura et mutuo commercio fruentes ſimul " ægrotant, & plerique moriuntur : quod ſi accedant ſumma " virium proſtratio, bubones, carbunculi, vibices, petechiæ, " tunc demum certi eſſe poſſumus de luis præſentia." Diemerbroeck, among the ſigns which frequently precede the plague, enumerates " morbi epidemii mali moris, dyſenteriæ " valde malignæ et contagioſæ, et imprimis febres putridæ " maligniſſimæ, et purpuratæ, plurimiſque lethales." He moreover mentions particularly the gradual progreſs of theſe fevers into the true plague; " prædicta febris peſtilens, in- " dies majora incrementa ſumens, magis magiſque in pejus " mutabatur, donec tandem in apertiſſimam peſtem tranſiret." In like manner Morton, ſpeaking of the poiſon that produced the remittent fever, which he deſcribes to have been prevalent in London for ſome years previous to 1665, ſays, " Venenum ſeſe recolligens, et mirum in modum auctum, " hanc συνεχη in peſtem funeſtiſſimam et diriſſimam inopi- " nato

(e) Preface to Mem. de la Soc. Roy. de Medicine.

" nato mutavit." And as the plague originally blazes forth from the embers of malignant diſeaſes; ſo at it's termination it ſeems again to ſubſide into them. " Febres quæ anno poſt " graviorem peſtem uno aut altero paſſim graſſantur, peſti- " lentes eſſe ſolent; et licet aliquibus veræ peſtis notis deſ- " titutæ, tamen ejuſdem naturam ac indolem quam pluri- " mum referunt, nec non conſimilem medendi rationem ſibi " vindicant *(f)*." Sir John Pringle has likewiſe related, upon the authority of Dr. Mackenzie, who reſided thirty years at Conſtantinople, that the annual peſtilential fever of that place, which very much reſembles that of our jails and crowded hoſpitals, is only called the plague when attended with buboes and carbuncles *(g)*. In Syria alſo in the winter, and early in the ſpring, the characteriſtic eruptions are often wanting *(h)*. At Moſcow, a putrid fever had been epidemic for three years preceding the plague; but as ſoon as the plague broke out, the fever ceaſed *(i)*: which is agreeable to the obſervations made at all times upon this diſeaſe.

It is from conſiderations like theſe, and from the ſimilarity of the circumſtances under which both diſeaſes are found to prevail, that the plague has been thought to be nothing more than a high degree of putrid fever. Sydenham himſelf, ſpeaking of the " febris maligna " which uſhered in the plague of 1665, ſays, " Cum ipſiſſima peſte ſpecie convenit, " nec ab ea niſi ob gradum remiſſiorem diſcriminatur." In the

(f) Sydenham.
(g) Army Diſeaſes.
(h) Ruſſel on the Plague.
(i) Mertens.

the ſame manner Rothman, in his account of the plague at Stockholm in 1710, obſerves, "Febris ardentis (*i. e.* malignæ) "naturam et proprietates rite qui noverit, huic et ipſa peſtis, "utpote gradu tantum ab hac differens, ignota non erit." And it is worthy of notice, how, according to the bills of mortality, the article of fever in general, but eſpecially the ſpotted fever, always increaſed and decreaſed along with the plague. Of the latter there never died more than four in a week before the plague began; but afterwards the number frequently exceeded an hundred: nor was this by any means peculiar to London. Diemerbroeck relates the ſame of the plague in the Netherlands; and Gockelius is quoted by Dr. Browne as obſerving, that ſome ſoldiers, returning from Hungary in 1665, ſpread the infection of the plague about Ulm and Augſburg, where he then lived, "and beſides "the plague, they brought along with them the Hungarian "and other malignant fevers, which diffuſed themſelves "around the neighbourhood, whereof many died." And more particularly Beerwinckel, who was a phyſician at Hamburg during the plague in the year 1714, "Sæpiſſime in cura "peſtis obſervavimus febres petechiales in peſtem, atque "hanc in illas tandem degeneraſſe; & ſi bubones retroceſſe-"rint, febrem petechialem fere ordinarie ortam fuiſſe. Hinc "colligo, materiam bubonum et harum petechiarum, ſi non "unam eandemque, parum tamen differentem fuiſſe." There is reaſon therefore to ſuſpect either that this fever muſt have been the ſame with the true plague, or that the plague often paſſed under the name of malignant fever.

M. Deſgenettes,

M. Deſgenettes, the principal phyſician who attended Bonaparte's army in the late expedition to Egypt, ſays of the plague, " Qu'il n'a pu, malgré les renſeignements nombreux " qu'il a cherchés, en obtenir une hiſtoire ſatisfaiſante; il " s'eſt auſſi apperçu que l'on confond generalement dans le " pays toutes les fievres peſtilentielles, qui ſont tres variées, " et forment un genre, avec la peſte proprement dite, " qui eſt une eſpece bien circonſpecte *(j)*." The difference between them ſeems to conſiſt in this; that the one is more infectious, is generally attended with buboes and carbuncles, is quicker in it's progreſs, and is more frequently fatal. But it muſt be obſerved, that this diſtinction is applicable only to the general courſe of each diſeaſe, not to particular caſes; for there ſtand recorded inſtances of other fevers which have ſeemed even in theſe reſpects to fall little ſhort of the true plague. Diemerbroeck confeſſes there is no pathognomonic ſign of the plague; for that buboes and plague ſores, which have by ſome been conſidered as ſuch, are ſometimes met with in other diſeaſes, and are at other times wanting in this. Accordingly his deſcription of the " ſigna " & ſymptomata peſtem comitantia," is agreeable to what we are yet well acquanted with in the jail fever. Beerwinckel deſcribes the appearance of the plague at Hamburgh in 1714 in the ſame manner; yet that this diſeaſe was the true plague, is very evident from the deſcription he afterwards gives of the buboes, and carbuncles, and other tokens. Rothman, in his hiſtory of the plague at Stockholm in 1710, again

(j) Mem. ſur l'Egypte.

again confirms the ſame account, and concludes " dari autem " revera peſtem ſine bubone, carbunculo, macula, &c. non " eſt quod quis dubitet." In Joſeph Browne's Treatiſe of the plague are likewiſe enumerated " the ſpecial ſigns of perſons " infected with the plague according to Ludovicus Gardinius " and Eberhardus Gockelius ;" which contain nothing more than is common to all putrid fevers : there is even no mention made of buboes or carbuncles, till you come to the ſucceeding chapter upon " the ſigns after death." Of the great plague in London it was ſaid, " the practitioners in phyſic " ſtand amazed to meet with ſo many various ſymptoms " which they find among their patients ; one week the ge- " neral diſtempers are blotches and boils ; the next week as " clean ſkinned as may be ; but death ſpares neither : one " week full of ſpots and tokens, and perhaps the ſucceeding " bill none at all *(k)*."

In the directions publiſhed by the College of Phyſicians reſpecting the plague of 1665, the following deſcription is given of the different eruptions, which uſed to diſtinguiſh the diſeaſe at that time :

" Directions for the Searchers.

" 1. They are to take notice whether there be any " ſwellings, riſings, or botch, under the ear, about the neck " on either ſide, or under the armpits of either ſide, or the " groins ;

(*k*) Extract of a Letter from John Tilliſon, Sept. 14, 1665, to Dr. Sancroft ; preſerved in the Britiſh Muſeum, Vol. 3785.

" groins; and of it's hardneſs, and whether broken, or un-
" broken.

" 2. WHETHER there be any blains, which may ariſe in
" any part of the body in the form of a bliſter, much bigger
" than the ſmall pox, of a ſtraw colour, or livid colour,
" which latter is the worſer: either of them hath a reddiſh
" circuit ſomething ſwollen round about it, which circuit
" remains after the bliſter is broken, encompaſſing the
" ſore.

" 3. WHETHER there be any carbuncle, which is ſome-
" thing like the blain, but more fiery and corroſive, eaſily
" eating deep into the fleſh, and ſometimes having a black
" cruſt upon it, but always encompaſſed about with a fiery
" red, or livid, flat and hard tumour, about a finger breadth
" more or leſs: this and the blain may appear in any part of
" the body.

" 4. WHETHER there be any tokens, which are ſpots
" ariſing upon the ſkin, chiefly about the breaſt and back,
" but ſometimes alſo in other parts: their colour is ſome-
" thing various, ſometimes more reddiſh, ſometimes inclining
" a little toward a faint blue; and ſometimes browniſh
" mixed with blue; the red ones have often a purple circle
" about them, the browniſh a reddiſh."

ON the other hand, Morton, who muſt have been well acquainted with both diſeaſes, ſays of the common autumnal fevers, " nonnunquam in primo inſultu malignæ extiterunt,
" parotidibus, bubonibus, authracibus, cæteriſque mali gni-

" tatis indiciis notatæ." He afterwards diſtinguiſhes theſe from the plague, by their not being ſo readily propagated by contagion. Dr. Mead obſerved of thoſe who with difficulty eſcaped from ſome of the worſt ſorts of the ſmall pox, " hi " omnes, quod memorabile eſt, ſub finem morbi grave aliquid " paſſi ſunt; nam aut furunculis frequentibus in corpore " obortis, aut tumoribus in glandulis ſub auribus et axillis " qui ægre ſuppurarent, excruciabantur;" and Dr. Freind, ſpeaking of a bad fever which ſpread on board the fleet in the year 1705, ſays, " in perpaucis parotides, aut abſceſ- " ſus circa inquen orti morbum ſolverunt *(kk)*." Sir John Pringle likewiſe takes notice, that when the courſe of the jail fever is long, it ſometimes terminates in ſuppurations of the parotid. " I remember," ſays he, " one inſtance of a " ſwelling of this kind on both ſides, without any previous " indiſpoſition, when the perſon not ſuſpecting the cauſe, and " applying diſcutient cataplaſms, was, upon the tumour's ſub- " ſiding, ſeized with the hoſpital fever, which was then fre- " quent." Dr. Lind alſo obſerves, " We have, though but " rarely, ſeen in very violent infections a ſwelling of the pa- " rotid glands, which for the moſt part was unattended with " a fever; notwithſtanding that, ſuch as were in this " manner ſeized, commonly died." He adds, " I had reaſon " to ſee at Wincheſter many of the French priſoners, who " were infected with a fever of a very malignant kind, at- " tended with buboes in the groin and armpits, and other " peſtilential ſymptoms." Dr. Donald Monro likewiſe met with

(kk) De Febr. Comm. 2.

with many examples of parotids towards the decline of the malignant fever, and in three patients ſaw critical ſwellings of the groin *(l)*. But a more ſtriking example than any of theſe is related by Sir John Pringle, which indeed ſhews that the jail fever under circumſtances favourable to it's progreſs, may vie with the plague itſelf in contagion and malignity. " The ſick from the army hoſpitals being ordered " to remove from Germany to Flanders, they were em- " barked in bilanders, to be carried to Ghent. During the " voyage the fever having acquired new force by the con- " finement of the air, by the mortifications, and other putrid " effluvia, it became ſo virulent, that above half the number " died in the boats, and many of the remainder ſoon after " their arrival. It's reſemblance to the plague was further " evinced by this memorable incident: a parcel of old tents " being ſent on board the ſame bilanders with the men, " were uſed by them for bedding: theſe tents, in order to " be refitted, were put into the hands of a tradeſman at " Ghent, who having employed twenty-three Flemiſh jour- " neymen about the work, loſt ſeventeen of them by the diſ- " temper, though they had no other communication with " the infected."

In many reſpects then there muſt be allowed to ſubſiſt a ſtrong reſemblance between theſe diſeaſes. The authors of the *Traité de la Peſte* declare, " Nous pouvons même avancer " hardiment, qu'on y reconnaitra facilement le caractere des " fievres

(l) Monro's Military Hoſpital.

" fievres malignes les plus ordinaires; du moins leur rapi-
" dité & quelques accidens ſeront les ſeules choſes qui diſtin-
" gueront ces fievres de la peſte." Their affinity may perhaps be compared to that which a common ague bears to the remittent fever. And if an accumulation of the cauſes of putrid fevers cannot produce a plague; at leaſt it ſeems capable of producing a prediſpoſition to it, where the leaven of the plague, however introduced, preſently exalts the reigning fever into it's own nature; ſuperadding it's proper characteriſtic ſymptoms to ſuch as are common to both diſeaſes. Conformably to this notion, Diemerbroeck takes notice, " Si
" quiſquam alio quodam morbo corriperetur, intra viginti
" quatuor horas peſtis illi morbo adjungebatur, ita ut toto
" anno vix ullus morbus peſte incomitatus viſus fuerit." We have aſſurances that ſome complaints have in this manner been engrafted as it were upon the ſtock of previous diſeaſes. " In autumn 1757, ſeveral ſoldiers were brought into the
" hoſpital at Portſmouth with a diſorder compounded of the
" autumnal and jail fever: for when thoſe men, upon being
" ſeized with the common fever of the ſeaſon, were con-
" fined to the holds of the crowded tranſports, their diſtemper
" aſſumed that form *(m)*." So upon admitting into an hoſpital one perſon with a flux, ſeveral other patients in the ſame ward have had this ſymptom added to their other complaints *(n)*. And Dr. Blane has obſerved generally, that, ſuppoſing a ſhip's company be prediſpoſed to acute diſtempers, and one man or more ill of a dyſentery be brought on board,

(m) Pringle's Army Diſeaſes. *(n)* Lind on Fever and Infection.

board, this will become the prevailing diſeaſe *(o)*. Sydenham's works abound with inſtances of the ſame kind: as, where he is ſpeaking of an epidemical cough, "Veruntamen "qualiſcunque fuerit febris ſtationaria, quæ illum annum "funeſtat, atque per id temporis dominatur, nova hæc febris "ſtatim in ejus nomen ac familiam adoptatur, ejuſdem "ubique genio obſequens, licet ſymptomata quædam adhuc "retineat, a tuſſi, quam habuit parentem, pendentia."

We have ſhewn then, that the ſtreets of London were formerly very cloſe, and dirty, and the houſes within very ſlovenly: we have ſhewn alſo in a former part of this eſſay *(p)*, that the inhabitants lived crowded together, probably not leſs than twice as many in the ſame ſpace they occupy at preſent. By pointing out the diſeaſes which prevailed in thoſe times, we have ſhewn what influence this ſtate of things appears to have had upon the health of the people; and how the effect, and the cauſe, have declined together: we have ſhewn from the teſtimony of eye-witneſſes how nearly the plague is allied to theſe other diſeaſes; how common it was at the ſame time with them; and how it has alſo diſappeared with them: we have ſhewn moreover, that the preſence of infectious matter is not alone ſufficient to make the diſeaſe epidemical; but that ſome concurrent ſtate of the air, and of the human body, is likewiſe neceſſary. I flatter myſelf therefore we ſhall be juſtified in drawing this concluſion: that our long exemption from the plague, is not ſo

(o) Diſeaſes of Seamen. *(p)* Page 66.

ſo much to be attributed to any accidental abſence of its exciting cauſes, as to our own change of manners, our love of cleanlineſs, and ventilation, which have produced amongſt us, I do not ſay an incapability, but a great unaptneſs, any longer to receive it.

FINIS.

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